This is a reproduction of a library book that was digitized by Google as part of an ongoing effort to preserve the information in books and make it universally accessible.

Google™ books

https://books.google.com



B 1,245,773

3 9015 04869



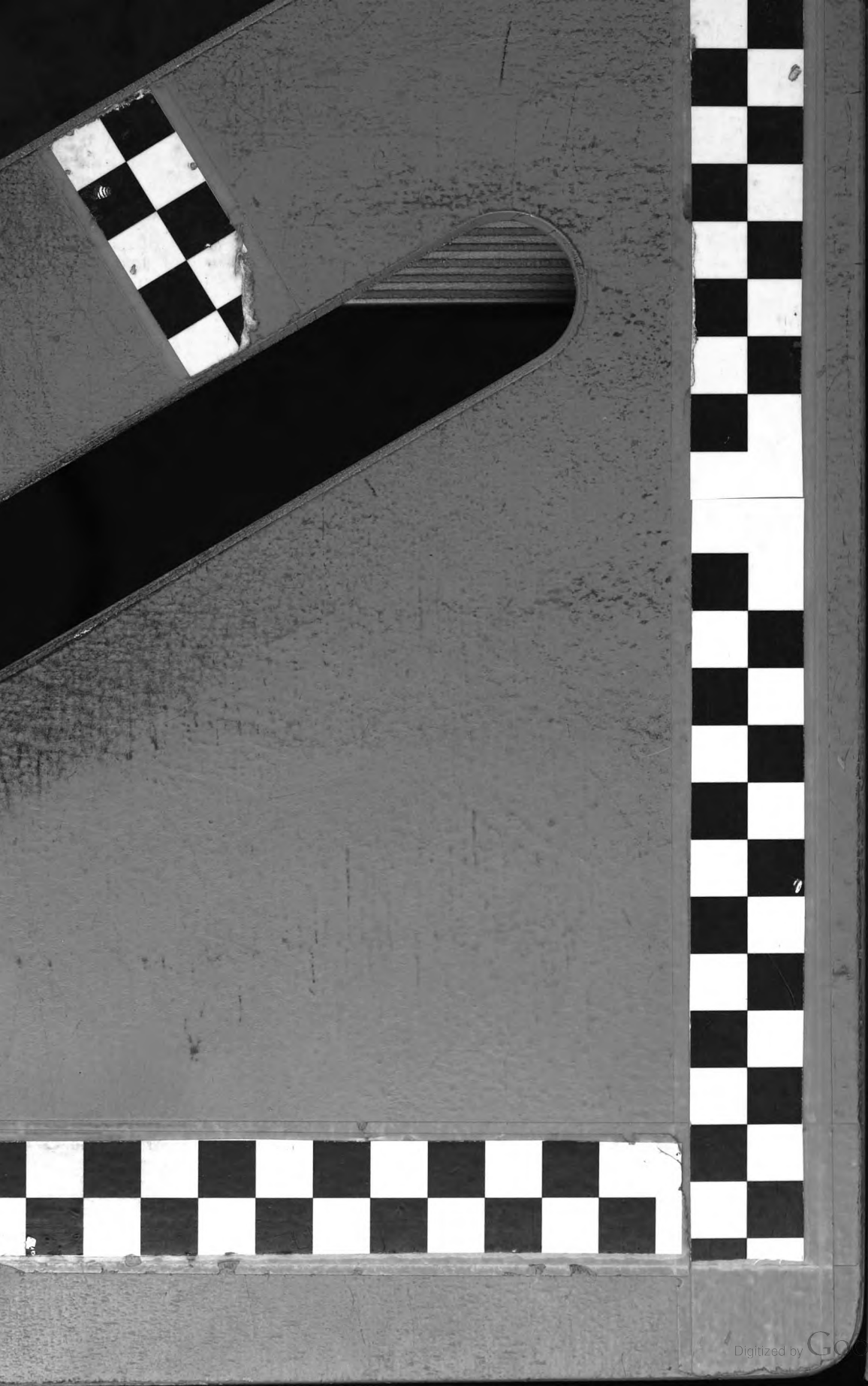
Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google



JV
33
G7
A3

Annual

C

(For Repo

PRINT

To be pu

Ada

Digitized by Google

JV
33
.G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1839

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

CAYMAN ISLANDS

(DEPENDENCY OF JAMAICA)

1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1745 and 1794 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 9*d.* net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1839

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

CAYMAN ISLANDS

(DEPENDENCY OF JAMAICA)

1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1745 and 1794 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1938
Price 9*d.* net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS, 1936

CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, Climate and History	2
II.	Government	5
III.	Population	6
IV.	Health	7
V.	Housing	9
VI.	Production	10
VII.	Commerce	12
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	14
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	14
X.	Communications and Transport	16
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	19
XII.	Public Works	20
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	20
XIV.	Legislation	21
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	21
XVI.	Miscellaneous	22
	Appendix-Bibliography	23
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Dependency of the Cayman Islands consists of three small islands situate between longitude W. 79° 44′ and 81° 27′ in latitude N. 19° 15′ and 19° 45′. The westernmost is the island of Grand Cayman, which is approximately 20 miles from east to west and has a maximum breadth north to south of some 8 miles. The other two islands, known respectively as Little Cayman and Cayman Brac, lie about 60 miles north-east of Grand Cayman. Little Cayman, the smallest of the group, is about 10 miles long by 2 miles wide at its maximum and Cayman Brac is a little larger.

No survey of the land area has yet been made but the total of the group is estimated by various authorities at from 140 square miles to as little as 92.

The islands are low-lying and Grand Cayman is in many parts little more than mangrove swamp. The maximum height is 130 feet above sea-level at the easternmost end of Cayman Brac,

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Sotheron
3-19-38
15-205

a culminating point to a high plateau that rises gradually from the west. This plateau has precipitous flanks both on the north and south sides, these cliffs being separated from the sea by a narrow stretch of beach and coral formation.

Geologically the islands consist of decayed coral limestone with deposits of phosphate and a loamy soil. They are covered with dense bush containing, in addition to mangroves, much log-wood, mahogany, thatch-palm and other trees of no particular economic worth.

Pasture land of considerable value for raising cattle is found on each of the islands, but agricultural land is not so abundant owing to the too frequent outcrop of decaying coral limestone and to the presence of swamps.

Climate.

The climate of the Cayman Islands is for the most part of the year excellent. The temperature from November until the middle of April varies from 79° F. to 82° F., and the winds are usually gentle to fresh from north-east to north-west.

The summer months are hot, and, as a rule, rainfall is comparatively heavy. The hurricane season lasts from August to November, as elsewhere in the West Indies. The following is a list of the principal hurricanes during the present century:—

August, 1903
August, 1915
September, 1917
November 7th-9th, 1932
July 1st, 1933
September 25th-27th, 1935.

The rainfall for the year was 91·44 inches as compared with 61·50 inches in 1935.

The annual rainfall has averaged since 1921 63·90 inches, and the year under review has been the wettest known during that period, excepting for 1931 when 102·33 inches fell.

No month is free from rain, but the rainy season proper can be said to last from May till October inclusively, the wettest months being September and October. During 1936, however, there was exceptionally heavy rain during May with the heaviest recorded downfall for one day of 8·66 inches.

During the year the Meteorological Station, erected in 1935 by the Cuban Department of Agriculture at Georgetown, began observations on 15th July. From that date until 15th November a trained observer from the National Observatory at Havana was stationed at Georgetown. Reports were exchanged twice a day with the Cuban capital, whence the information required was transmitted throughout the Caribbean.

Digitized by Google

History.

The first account of the islands is the report of the third voyage of Columbus on his return from Porto Bello to Hispaniola in 1503. Therein it is stated that the islands were covered with turtle which swarmed also on the coasts in such multitudes as to look look like ridges of rock.

No settlement appears, however, to have been founded; but the islands were frequently visited by vessels of all nations for revictualling purposes, the turtles being dried and salted.

An account exists of a visit paid in 1643 by the vessels under the command of Captain William Jackson during his abortive attempt on Jamaica. His description of Grand Cayman reads:—

> "This place is low land and all rockye, and there bee other 2 Islands of ye same name and Quallitie, being by ye Spanyards called Chimanos, from ye multitude of Alligators here found which are Serpents, if not resembling ye Crocodiles of Egypt. Hither doe infinitt numbers of Sea Tortoises yearly resorte to lay their Eggs upon ye Sandy Bay, which at this time (June) swarm so thick. The Island is much frequented by English, Dutch and French ships, that come purposely to salt up ye flesh of these Tortoises."

In 1655, Jamaica was taken and the Cayman Islands became a regular source of food supply for the soldiers and fleets of England cruising the Caribbean. Eventually, by the Treaty of Madrid in 1670, Jamaica was ceded to the British Crown and with it the Cayman Islands.

In Esquemeling's History of the Buccaneers, one finds how the islands continued to maintain their importance as a source of meat supply and there is the following reference:—

> "It is a thing much deserving consideration how the tortoises can find out these islands. For the greatest part of them come from the Gulf of Honduras, distant thence the whole space of one hundred and fifty leagues. Certain it is, that many times the ships, having lost their latitude through the darkness of the weather, have steered their course only by the noise of the tortoise swimming that way, and have arrived at those isles. When their season of hatching is past, they retire towards the island of Cuba, where are many good places that afford them food. But while they are at the islands of Caymanes, they eat very little or nothing."

There does not appear to have been any serious settlement on these islands until the early part of the eighteenth century, although it is apparent that from time to time there were parties of residents chiefly composed of shipwrecked sailors, beachcombers, and possibly marooned mariners.

Digitized by Google

Tradition further has it that during the six years of Sir Thomas Modyford's commission as Governor of Jamaica, 1664-70, he visited Little Cayman where his landing place is supposed to have been Muddyfoot's Bay, a possible corruption of his name. Not till 1734, however, is a grant of land recorded as having been made to the first settlers, followed by further patents in 1741. The families of " Bodden " and " Foster " are in all probability direct descendants from these patentees, some of whom bore those names.

There are no traces of any Spanish occupation but from time to time small finds are made of Spanish coins, which may indicate evidence of the residence in the islands of pirates and buccaneers. During 1934 one such find was made at Cayman Brac of 270 coins scattered over a small area, dated 168--. The coins were identified as having been minted in Mexico and, except for one gold piece, were all of silver alloy.

The name " Cayman " has been the subject of a certain amount of discussion, information regarding which will be found in the Annual Report for 1934.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

During the eighteenth century, public affairs in the Dependency were managed by the Justices of the Peace, appointed by the Governor of Jamaica, under the direction of one of them locally elected as " Governor ". The principle of representative government was accepted in 1832, when elected members were received into the administrative body, and the term " custos rotulorum " was substituted for that of " Governor ".

In 1863, an Act was passed by the Imperial Parliament (26 and 27 Vict. Chap. 31) recognizing the existence of Acts and Resolutions passed by this body and validating such as should be subsequently assented to by the Governor of Jamaica.

Under this authority the Legislature of Jamaica may make laws for the peace, order and good government of the Dependency and may amend or repeal any of the laws locally passed, but at the same time provision was made for the continuance of the legislative powers of the Justices and Vestry. These powers were more closely defined in the Imperial Act of 1863 referred to above and in 1893 were further explained by Jamaica Law 37 of 1893.

Justices of the Peace are commissioned in a General Commission of the Peace by the Governor of Jamaica, the latest Commission being dated 21st October, 1934, when 24 Justices of the Peace were appointed.

Digitized by Google

There are 27 Vestrymen whose election takes place every two years, the latest having been held in August, 1936, when the following statistics are to be noted:—

Constituency.	*No. of Electorate.*	*No. of Voters.*	*No. of Representatives.*
Georgetown	235	147	5
West Bay	185	73	5
Prospect	37	19	3
Boddentown	87	40	5
East End	79	29	3
Northside	61	20	2
Lesser Islands	262	66	4
	946	394	27

Thus 41·64 per cent. of the electorate went to the polls. But it is to be observed how high a proportion to the total electorate the total of representatives bears.

The power of the Custos is now vested in the office of Commissioner, who is at the same time Judge of the Grand Court. The duties of the Commissioner are regulated by Law 34 of 1898 (section 2).

III.—POPULATION.

The population of the Dependency is an increasing one. In 1774, the whole population amounted to 176 souls. By 1802, when a census was taken by a Special Commissioner sent down by the then Governor of Jamaica, the figures showed 309 whites, 73 coloured, 6 free blacks and 545 slaves, a total of 933.

No further figures are obtainable until the first census proper in 1891.

In the 1935 Annual Report details of the population and sex distribution are given. Summarized they are as follows:—

1891.		*1911.*		*1921.*		*1934.*	
M.	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*
1,904	2,418	2,427	3,137	2,216	3,037	2,472	3,537
4,322		5,564		5,253		6,009	

The proportion of males to females remains the same and is approximately 100 males to 150 females. This excess of females is most noticeable after the age group 16 to 17. Until that age males and females are approximately 50:50.

There has been a steady annual increase of the population which it is estimated to-day to total 6,700, a number inclusive of those men absent fishing in 1934 when the Census was taken.

Immigration and emigration statistics are as follows:—

Year.	*Outward.*	*Inward.*
1933	352	442
1934	375	420
1935	427	397
1936	411	382

Digitized by Google

The accuracy of these figures leaves much to be desired since a considerable number of men leave the islands, not as passengers but as ships' ratings.

The statistics of births and deaths are as follows:—

Year.	*No. of births.*	*Birth-rate per thousand.*	*Infantile mortality per thousand births.*	*No. of deaths.*	*Death-rate per thousand.*
1933 ...	162	30	154	156	29
1934 ...	172	28	52	55	9
1935 ...	197	33	25	50	8
1936 ...	188	31	53	55	8

During the year under review there were 37 marriages, which compare with preceding years as follows:

Year.	*No. of marriages.*	*Rate per thousand.*
1932	37	7
1933	32	6
1934	48	8
1935	41	7
1936	37	6

Of the 188 births 96 were males and 92 females. Illegitimate births numbered 37 giving an illegitimate birth-rate per mille of 196.

The population of the islands is preponderantly British, the next in numbers being nationals of the United States of America, but they include a large proportion of Cayman Islanders who have naturalized themselves as American citizens.

IV.—HEALTH.

During 1936 the health of the Dependency continued to be good, with no epidemics.

The birth and death rates have been given above. An analysis of the 55 deaths shows that 22 died from senility, whilst infantile mortality accounted for a further 10.

A single death was attributed to tuberculosis, but none to typhoid or malaria.

The unusual healthiness of the Dependency is illustrated in the following table, which shows that old age is the principal cause of death. In this respect the year 1931 presented some remarkable figures. In that year there were 14 deaths at Boddentown, the youngest of which was at 66 years and the oldest at 100, the average being 81. In the same year at East End there were four deaths at 84, 86, 84 and 87, respectively.

Year.	*Total deaths.*	*Enteric.*	*Dysentery.*	*Tuberculosis.*	*Malaria.*	*Over 70 years old.*	
						M.	*F.*
1933 ...	156	14	10	3	—	28	31
1934 ...	55	1	1	1	—	8	16
1935 ...	50	1	—	2	1	6	14
1936 ...	55	—	1	1	—	13	9

Digitized by Google

The fact that so many males are absent between the ages of 18 and 60 might be thought to account for these figures in a small way, but this is not the case and deaths of young and middle-aged men abroad from the Caymans are very rare. At the same time the female population between these years does not migrate, and their deaths between the ages of 18-60 are most uncommon.

The state of the healthiness is all the more surprising in view of the prevalence during the rainy season of vast swarms of mosquitoes and the almost complete lack of sanitation.

The mosquito problem has never been seriously tackled and presents great difficulties. The settlements have been allowed to grow up without any attention to town-planning, access to most of the houses being impossible for wheeled traffic. The result is that the great majority of houses are scattered without order and surrounded each by small compounds in which weeds and fruit trees have been allowed to grow at will, almost without any care at all. The soil is generally hard coral rock, full of cracks and crevices, and where it is soft it is during the summer months a mass of crab holes. Trees blown down in the storms have been allowed to lie on the ground; bananas, palms, corn and bread-fruit have been cultivated amongst the houses; pigs are indiscriminately kept; old tins, bottles and sea shells, chiefly of the conch, are thrown away regardlessly. In short everything has been done to facilitate the breeding of mosquitoes.

During the year under review continued efforts were made to clean Georgetown as was done in 1935 and the people responded so well that possibly if they persevere the plague of mosquitoes may diminish. It is an undeniable fact that after the cleaning the swarms of misquitoes decreased to a very great extent. But it is difficult as conditions are at present to do much more than take this first elementary step towards sanitation. There are no incinerators and the settlements could not afford a sanitary gang. Unfortunately the mosquito season coincides with the period when most of the men are away so that cleaning thoroughly cannot be undertaken, nor in the absence of legislation would it be possible to control the disposal of rubbish.

There has been no survey made of the mosquitoes themselves but it is to be noted that probably as much as 90 per cent. are *Aedes Aegypti*.

There is no hospital in the Dependency, but at the end of the year a small building was being prepared for this purpose. Provision for medical attention is provided by the services of a Government Medical Officer, stationed in Grand Cayman, and a dispenser resident in Cayman Brac.

Digitized by Google

The former enjoys private practice and is entitled to fees regulated by rules drawn up under Law 3 of 1901, which provided for the appointment.

It had been hoped to have arranged during 1936 for a Medical Missionary to be stationed in Cayman Brac. Negotiations, however, fell through; but for a short time a qualified Medical Officer resided in that island. After two months sojourn he left without notice and the island reverted to the former practice of relying upon the services of a Dispenser.

In December, 1936, the Government Medical Officer was transferred to Jamaica and a new Medical Officer appointed. The latter was able to spend two weeks in the Lesser Islands, where he conducted a close survey from a medical point of view and submitted a long report. His general conclusions can be summarized by a short paragraph from that report: " My general conclusion is that the people of Cayman Brac form a very healthy community, much too healthy to need, and much too poor to afford, the services of a resident doctor. I consider that the health of the people of Cayman Brac can be quite adequately looked after by the resident Government Dispenser."

There are no certificated midwives, such services being rendered by volunteers who usually receive a small remuneration.

The water supply of the Dependency leaves much to be desired. The people depend almost exclusively on rain which is caught from the iron roofs into cement cisterns or iron tanks. No statistics are available as to the number of these but at the end of the winter a shortage of water is experienced in most places.

The rainfall is very unevenly distributed although probably the average would be the same for each district. The result of this is that often there is a drought in some districts and an over-abundance of water in others, a condition which adds to the difficulty of arranging for a public water supply.

V.—HOUSING.

Since 1921, the number of houses in the Dependency has increased from 1,060 to 1,246, as shown below:—

	Number of houses.			*Average number of persons per house, 1934.*
	1911.	*1921.*	*1934.*	
Grand Cayman ...	765	815	961	4·7
Cayman Brac... ...	254	226	267	4·8
Little Cayman ...	29	19	18	4·0
	1,048	1,060	1,246	4·69

Digitized by Google

It cannot be said that there is general overcrowding except in a few isolated places in Georgetown.

Thatch roofs have almost disappeared, save for out-buildings such as kitchens. The roofs were made of the leaves of the palmetto *Thrinax argentea,* and were real objects of art, and it is to be hoped that this craftsmanship will be preserved. Outwardly the appearance is not striking, but from the inside the intricate and regular weaving of the leaves presents a view of good and beautiful workmanship. It is worth recording in connexion with the thatching of roofs that this work was performed not for remuneration but as a communal work for which the reward was a fiesta, even the principal artisans receiving no payment.

A few examples remain of a type of house which is claimed to be peculiar to the Cayman Islands. These were often two-storeyed with single roofs to which there was no overhang and of which the slope was not very acute. The walls were made of puddled coral and sand, the coral having first been reduced to powder by burning. Sections are set up one at a time between hardwood uprights and interlacing of small beams. Windows were cut and having no glass were merely shuttered, either with jalousies or boards.

Practically every house is owned by the family resident therein, only a few being rented. Rental varies from £1 a month upwards.

Lodging for working-class people is not expensive. Often young unmarried men come from the outlying areas to the larger centres for casual labour. Their board and lodging costs from 6s. a week upwards, but usually arrangements can be made to lodge with relatives.

There are no building societies in the Dependency; but a strong family or communal feeling exists whereby persons of the poorer class desirous of erecting a new house can obtain labour and assistance free of charge.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

For a short period (1884-90) the islands were exploited for phosphates, deposits being worked commercially in each of the three islands. But the grade of the phosphates was low and the area of the deposits not of any extent. Since the closing down of these works there has been no mineral production and the Dependency relies entirely on the harvest of the sea and of the field.

Agriculture.

Agriculturally the islands are of a very promising character and are capable of producing practically every crop that grows within the tropic zone. The soil consists of marl and this, enriched by vegetable decay as well as the mild phosphate deposits,

Digitized by Google

should have made the islands of considerable agricultural value. The Cayman Islanders, however, are essentially fisher-folk and seamen, and the result is that the fields are not cultivated to the full extent of their possibilities, nor are they cared for as they should be. It is the same with the fruit trees which are not cultivated but merely planted. A conspicuous feature of agricultural conditions is the complete indifference of the women-folk who in other parts take their full share of the labour. Even among the negro population the women do not display any real interest in the fields.

The principal field products are:—corn, guinea corn, sweet potatoes, yams, beans, cassava, pumpkins, melons, and plantains, and the principal fruit trees are mango, banana, sapodilla, avocado pear, paw-paw, sweet and sour sops and the various forms of citrus. It is notable that although sisal and Spanish sabre grow almost everywhere in the islands, pineapples are conspicuous by their absence. It is possible that this is due to superstition as the people relate that they believe children were fatally poisoned some years ago through eating pineapples imported from Central America.

Most of the agricultural production is by individual workers who, as a rule, own the land they farm. There are, however, a number of plantation owners who employ labour.

Statistics are not available as to the quantity or value of the crops grown in the Dependency, which are wholly consumed locally. The islands are not self-supporting, a certain amount of fresh fruits and vegetables being imported annually.

Live Stock.

A description of the live stock industry has been given in the 1935 Report.

Fisheries.

The fishing industry is the mainstay of the islanders. It consists of catching turtles, sharks and sponges. A description of these has been given in the 1934 and 1935 Reports.

There are 22 schooners engaged in this industry which takes them far afield.

The following return shows the amount and value of the catch:—

Year.	*Green Turtle.*		*Hawksbill Shell.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	No.	£	*lb.*	£
1932	1,004	1,049*	619	306*
1933	966	966	1,990	1,115
1934	1,504	1,504	9,883	5,690
1935	1,673	2,059	5,302	2,593
1936	3,161	4,979	6,798	2,984

* Grand Cayman only.

Digitized by Google

The sharking industry gave in 1936 the following returns: 6,487 skins valued at £1,423, compared with 11,962 valued at £2,532 in 1935, the export being exclusively to the United States of America.

The sponge fishery in 1935 shipped 250 cwt. of sponges valued at £180, but during 1936 the value of sponges shipped increased to £565.

To-day there are practically no local industries except that of thatch rope manufacture and a certain amount of weaving. Formerly a canning industry existed at Georgetown but this has long since disappeared. The thatch rope industry is carried out by the men and women-folk in their own homes and in their own time and at their own inclination. The importance of the industry to the islanders can be gauged from the quantity of rope exported. The accompanying table shows the fluctuations of the thatch rope industry:—

Year.	*Fathoms in 1,000's.*	*Value.* £	*Average cost per 1,000 fathoms.* s.
1932	1,525	1,534	20
1933	1,412	1,163	18
1934	1,374	1,374	20
1935	1,539	1,373	17
1936	1,929	1,456	16

Thatch rope is made from the palmetto *Thrinax argentea*. It is not cultivated but it is found growing everywhere in the islands. The manufacture of the rope is carried on by the poorer classes, principally in the districts of West Bay and East End. It is chiefly the women-folk who turn their hands to this industry for their livelihood.

The rope is shipped almost entirely to Jamaica where a curious trade-custom is still preserved. The vessel taking the rope receives no freight but is credited with 20 per cent. of the value received. This 20 per cent. is shared in various proportions between the owner and the master and crew. At the same time the practice is not only to sell rope to larger merchants in Kingston but also to peddle it around the coast, thereby competing with their principal clients, the distributing agents in Kingston. The survival of this antiquated method of doing business prevents any reasonable chance of thatch rope obtaining a better market.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Imports in 1936 were valued at £25,580, being £1,225 more than in 1935. Exports were valued at £12,934 showing an increase of £2,114 as compared with 1935. Re-exports are included, being valued at £48, as compared with £22 in 1935.

Digitized by Google

A revival of trade in the export of green turtles to Jamaica and the United States accounts for the increase in the exports compared with the previous year.

Trade is maintained principally with the United Kingdom, Jamaica, and the United States of America, and the percentages for the past five years are as follows:—

Imports.

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
United Kingdom...	8·01	45·85	14·04	16·42	20·63
Jamaica	23·07	41·11	36·00	31·43	31·05
United States of America.	52·58	34·74	29·55	32·72	25·23

Exports.

United Kingdom...	2·00	3·78	2·23	1·39	20·88
Jamaica	45·34	73·33	79·65	56·02	40·88
United States of America.	40·35	21·53	16·95	39·46	37·39

Imports from Empire sources for the year under review amounted to 50·00 per cent. of the total imports, a similar percentage compared with the year 1935.

The total value of domestic exports amounted to £12,886.

The following tables show the sources of the import trade and the distribution of the exports during the years 1931 to 1936. 1932 figures are not available:—

Imports.

	1931.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	2,816	5,035	3,250	4,000	5,278
Other British Possessions.	8,419	13,274	8,687	8,169	8,043
United States ...	18,373	11,030	6,841	7,971	6,454
Japan	—	59	1,237	1,748	2,021
Other Countries ...	5,532	2,352	3,130	2,467	3,784
	35,140	31,750	23,145	24,355	25,580

Exports (Domestic).

	1931.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	200	194	308	150	2,700
Other British Possessions.	4,724	3,761	10,343	6,051	5,286
United States of America.	4,021	1,104	2,257	4,262	4,836
Other Countries ...	1,018	68	—	335	64
	9,963	5,127	12,908	10,798	12,886

Digitized by Google

Re-Exports.

	1931.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£	£
Jamaica	12	1,211	312	14	7
Other Countries ...	260	386	95	8	41
United States of America.	—	1,824	—	—	—
	272	3,421	407	22	48

The Chamber of Commerce for the Cayman Islands formed at Georgetown in 1934 continued to function throughout the year. This Chamber is filling a long-felt need, and is proving itself of considerable value to the community.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

There is comparatively little employment for unskilled labour either by Government or other employers. The principal work is that of cleaning roads for which the usual daily rate is 3s. Agricultural labour is employed by some of the larger land owners but is of a temporary nature, permanent labour being practically unknown. Such labour is paid at the rate of 3s. a day. Boys are employed to herd the cattle and receive from 6s. to 8s. a month, together with food. Other casual labour is employed on the water-front and receives 6d. per hour.

There are no regulations as to the number of hours, but in Government employ these are limited to eight.

Skilled labour works as a rule by contract. Shipwrights, carpenters, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, &c. command a wage from 8s. to 12s. a day.

The staple food is wheaten flour and corn meal, both imported. It is difficult to estimate the value of the wages earned in terms of bread loaves as the people are usually their own bakers and the loaves are of irregular size and weight. There is a bakery at Georgetown, but this only serves the more well-to-do classes.

The cost of living for officials does not vary much whether the officer lives at Georgetown or elsewhere. In either case the cost is low compared with elsewhere in the West Indies. The majority of Government officials belong to local families and therefore have access without cost to the produce of the orchards and fields. A stranger would probably require at least £60 per annum and a married man about £100.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education throughout the Dependency is free and compulsory. The school age is from seven to fourteen for both sexes and is confined to elementary subjects. There are no secondary or technical schools or institutions for higher education. Control of education is vested in a Board appointed annually. The Board functions under Law 5 of 1920.

Digitized by Google

Since 1932 expenditure on education has been annually as follows:—

Year.	*Expenditure.* £ s. d.	*No. of Children on school rolls.*
1932	1,429 9 10	887
1933	1,308 16 4	870
1934	1,563 17 8	824
1935	1,402 18 10	876
1936	1,266 9 10	874

The number of children on the roll during the year was 874, whose education was provided in 13 schools, four of which were at Cayman Brac. There is no school at Little Cayman where only two children of school age are to be found. At the same time there are six private schools with an attendance of 89 pupils. There are 22 teachers, the number including pupil-teachers. Teachers are appointed by the Board and are generally in possession of some teaching certificate.

The standard of teaching is based on the pupil-teachers' examination of Jamaica, of which there are three grades. In 1936, 54 students sat for this examination, and of these 15 were successful.

No provision is made for orphanages or for the maintenance of sick and aged people. The Assembly of Justices and Vestry grant a small sum towards the maintenance of paupers, which is distributed on the advice of the local Justices to deserving cases for the provision of small luxuries such as sugar, flour and tobacco.

The distribution has been entrusted to the Cayman Islands Friendly Society, which is composed of ladies from each one of the various districts. The society is able to import its requirements for this purpose duty free, and the work has been carried on most efficiently. The ladies visit all those who apply for assistance and are thus able to report on the actual conditions.

As in 1935 conditions of general poverty obtained everywhere in the Dependency. The aged people who depended on remittances from their sons abroad were left without that aid. Young mothers with families likewise dependent on money from outside were equally stranded. At the same time the continued fall in value of thatch rope affected directly the poorer classes, who have found themselves more and more involved in a variety of the "truck system" which enforces payment in kind in exchange for produce that is not readily marketable.

The smallness of the community and the close relationship of most people with one another tend naturally to the encouragement of mutual recreation. Concerts are frequently arranged for various charitable purposes and are well patronized.

Digitized by Google

The subscription library at Georgetown continued to function throughout the year. The annual grant of £40 was renewed, not as an absolute grant, but on condition that the papers, magazines and books subscribed for by the library should be regularly sent to the outlying districts.

The public reading room at West Bay, which is conducted by voluntary effort, was increasingly patronized and it is hoped that the distribution of the reading matter subscribed for through the grant will encourage this welcome enterprise.

The Sea Scout movement continued to make considerable progress during the year. A third troop was formed at Boddentown and a Cub Pack started there. The total number of Sea Scouts at the end of 1936 was 80, and the two Cub Packs totalled 55. The boys show great keenness and during 1937 the movement promises to extend even more.

A second company of Girl Guides was formed at Boddentown, and the total number of Guides at the end of the year was 52. The Guides are affiliated to the Jamaica Association whilst the Sea Scouts have their own Cayman Islands Association.

The second annual Regatta was held in January and was attended by many visitors from Jamaica, including a troop of Rover Scouts who brought their own vessel with them. This annual event which is held under the auspices of the Cayman Islands Yacht and Sailing Club founded in 1934 promises to become an important factor in the development of the Dependency as a pleasure resort.

The Yacht Club is in reality the only social club of any importance in the Dependency. Its Commodore is His Excellency the Governor of Jamaica and it has a membership of 134.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

The motorable roads were kept in order throughout the year in spite of the unusual rainfall. In Grand Cayman there are approximately 40 miles of motorable roads, and in Cayman Brac 11. The cost of maintenance was £12 per mile as against an average during the past of £16.

The first motor car was introduced into the islands in 1914, and at the end of 1936 there were 47 motor cars, 11 lorries and 5 motor cycles.

In the settlements of West Bay and Georgetown there are a few streets that follow no considered plan. There are also sections of road connecting the main artery with the North Sound both at Georgetown and West Bay, which during the year were widened and repaired. In Cayman Brac there is a good motorable highway running the length of the island. In Little Cayman there are no roads, only paths, as there is no need for any public communication other than connexion between houses of members of the same family.

Digitized by Google

Road communications cannot be said to be good. The roads are narrow and follow no direct line. Indeed until recently the authorities had met considerable opposition in getting permission to construct even the merest track.

A considerable amount of intercommunication is by the sea, in cat-boats and other small craft. No particulars are available.

A few pack horses, mules and donkeys still survive and are taxed.

A small telephone system is operated by Government between Georgetown, Boddentown and West Bay, with its central exchange at Georgetown. Instruments are not provided privately to the public, but the latter has access to those in the public buildings. A small charge is made, viz., 6d. per message and 3d. to 1s. 6d. for delivery according to distance.

At the end of the year the telephone system was being extended so as to cover the whole island, and early in 1937 telephone communication will be established between Northside, East End and the rest of Grand Cayman. In Cayman Brac a public telephone service was installed throughout the island during the year under review.

The installation of the public Wireless service towards the end of 1935 was followed by the establishment in 1936 of a small station in Cayman Brac.

The installation consists of:—

One Transmitter;

One Receiver;

One charging plant 7 h.p. petrol engine with generators for charging H.T. and L.T. accumulators and switches;

One set H.T. accumulators 500 volts 5 ampere hours, and two L.T. accumulators 6 volts 60 ampere hours;

and Messrs Cable & Wireless Ltd. carried out the installation. The Station came into operation on 22nd August, 1936.

Communication from Cayman Brac is through the principal station in Grand Cayman and the charges are the same, viz., Ordinary rate 1s., deferred 6d., code 7½d., per word, with a night letter telegram of 8s. 4d. as a minimum charge of 25 words. The rates are additional to the usual charges for communication with Jamaica.

The following are the details of the traffic handled during the first full year of the Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac Stations operation from 1st January to 31st December, 1936.

	Via Jamaica.	*Cayman Brac.*	*Havana.*	
Received ...	719	80	—	799
Despatched ...	650	144	289	1,083
Total messages				1,882

There is no inward traffic from Havana, that station being exclusively used for meteorological purposes, and no commercial business is transacted.

Digitized by Google

There are two communications, morning and evening, daily with both Kingston and Cayman Brac. Receipts totalled £457 0s. 4d. of which the company's share was £225 15s. 10d., leaving a net receipt of £221 4s. 6d. Expenditure incurred amounted to £278 18s. 5d. showing a net loss of £57 13s. 11d.

The growth of the traffic was much more than originally estimated so that the station may, in the near future, prove a profitable investment. But it must be remembered that in the first instance these installations were erected to maintain communication in the event of hurricanes.

The operator in Grand Cayman is a trained and certificated officer, but at Cayman Brac only a learner is in charge who draws at present a nominal salary. This is a weak link in this line of communication and difficult for the moment to remedy.

During the hurricane season, however, a meteorological observer stationed in Grand Cayman by the Cuban Observatory at Havana, as mentioned above, is also a trained operator, so that if need should arise he would be capable of carrying on.

The postal service has been maintained since the year 1890. There are post offices in every district, with deliveries daily in Georgetown and three times per week elsewhere.

External services are maintained by mail subsidy with Jamaica once in every 17 days in either direction and with Cuba and the United States about nine times a year. Use is made of schooners whenever possible. Communication between Cayman Brac and Grand Cayman depends on the Jamaican service.

The volume of postal business carried in 1936 is estimated as follows:—

	Letters and postcards.	*Newspapers.*	*Books and circulars.*	*Parcels.*	*Total.*
Inward ...	24,500	4,000	9,500	2,200	40,200
Outward ...	25,000	—	—	300	25,300

The contract for a subsidized mail service was renewed in February, 1932, for five years, and is to the amount of £600 of which the Dependency pays half.

A comparative table of revenue and expenditure of the postal department during the past five years is as follows:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1932	3,529	1,182
1933	2,238	791
1934	1,067	741
1935	8,694	2,029
1936	7,565	2,236

The comparatively large revenue is due to the continued success of the sales of the pictorial issue of stamps, and the expenditure was swollen by £895 the cost of the two wireless intallations, and £228 the extension of the telephone system.

Digitized by Google

Imperial Penny postage was in force as from St. George's Day, 23rd April, 1936.

Georgetown is a port of registry for shipping and had on its register at the end of the year 45 sailing and 11 motor vessels, of a total tonnage of 4,443 (gross).

During the year, six ships of a total tonnage of 294 were added, and eight of a total tonnage of 514 removed.

During the year the arrivals and departures of vessels were as follows:—

	Sail and Motor.	
Nationality.	*Arrivals.*	*Departures.*
British	178	174
Colombian	8	10
Honduranian	5	5
Nicaraguan	1	1
American	3	2
Total	195	192

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The currency and weights and measures are the same as those that obtain in Great Britain. Popular practice and the close connexion with the United States of America allows use to be made of the smaller denominations of United States currency, but these are not accepted in Government offices.

The total amount of currency in circulation is estimated to be approximately £3,000, but it is difficult to arrive at any approach to accuracy.

There are no banks in the Dependency, other than a Post Office Savings Bank which was established in 1908. Interest is paid at the rate of 2½ per cent. and depositors are allowed to deposit up to a maximum of £400, and not more than £200 in any one year. Statistics of the Bank are as follows:—

Year.	*No. of Depositors.*	*Amount of deposit at beginning of year.*	*Amount of deposit during the year.*	*Amount of withdrawal during the year.*
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1932 ...	64	1,772 9 8	1,238 17 6	1,003 12 9
1933 ...	68	2,055 7 2	1,226 15 5	1,344 1 10
1934 ...	78	1,993 8 7	922 3 11	922 5 9
1935 ...	125	2,042 4 8	2,389 4 3	1,268 10 0
1936 ...	135	3,215 10 10	2,810 11 6	2,101 2 5

Against the total deposit of £4,005 7s. 3d. the balance due to depositors at the end of the year, the Savings Bank had invested, through the Crown Agents for the Colonies in recognized funds, £3,895 8s. 5d. at cost price.

Digitized by Google

The branch of the Bank opened at Cayman Brac in 1934 continued to work successfully throughout the year. There were 47 accounts, deposits totalling £1,810 2s. at the end of the year. This sum is included in the figures of the preceding paragraph.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

In Grand Cayman no fresh work was undertaken with the exception of the extension of the telephone mentioned previously. Apart from this work the activities of the Department were confined to maintenance and repairs. The flower garden at Government House, started in 1934, was further improved, and the Bahamas grass now covers the whole area of the grounds.

At Cayman Brac apart from the installation of the telephone, the Department completed a King's Warehouse at Creek.

The Department consists of a Foreman of Works in Grand Cayman and one in Cayman Brac. The only labour is casual which is remunerated at the rate of 3s. a day, but a promise has been made to restore the rate to 4s. a day as soon as finances permit.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

The Law in force in the Dependency is the common law of England as it existed at the time of the enactment of the Imperial Act of the Government of the Cayman Islands dated 22nd June, 1863. Since then various Acts have been passed under the Constitution referred to in Chapter II, both in Jamaica and in the Dependency.

The principal court is the Grand Court constituted by the Jamaica Legislature, Chap. 18 of 1894. This court is a part of the Supreme Court of Judicature of Jamaica and is presided over by a Judge, who is also the Commissioner. It sits twice a year in June and December. There are Petty Courts, over which Justices preside in the various districts whenever occasion arises.

Justices of the Peace are appointed in a General Commission of the Peace and give their services voluntarily.

The following statistics show the number of criminal offences before the Courts of the Dependency during the year:—

Persons charged by police or otherwise ...	—	43
Convicted summarily	38	—
Acquitted summarily	1	—
Committed to Grand Court	4	43
Convicted by Grand Court	—	4

The Police Force as reorganized at the end of 1935 consists of—One Inspector, one Sergeant, five Constables, five District Constables.

Four Constables are stationed at Georgetown, and one at Cayman Brac. They patrol the outer districts from time to time.

Digitized by Google

In each district there is a lock-up and at Georgetown there is a general prison for offenders to serve sentences. It has been the practice to send to Jamaica convicts sentenced to more than six months' imprisonment. The prison in Georgetown is an old building and provides accomodation in three cells. There is no special provision for juvenile offenders, but Magistrates have always exercised their discretionary powers in their case. In a similar way time is usually allowed for the payment of fines and use is made of the probation system.

The health of the prisoners was uniformly good throughout the year.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is a list of the more important legislation enacted during the year:—

Law 4 of 1936. *The Public Launches and Boats (Insurance) Law* providing for a Fund for Replacement of Public Launches and Boats which may be injured or destroyed.

A similar law providing for the Replacement of Public Buildings was passed by the Assembly of Justices and Vestry but at the end of the year had not yet received the consent of His Excellency the Governor.

Other legislation included the usual laws providing for Supplementary Appropriation, amendments to laws in force, and appropriation for expenditure.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure is given below:—

Year.	*Revenue.*			*Expenditure.*		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1932	8,141	1	4	6,547	14	9
1933	7,298	11	3	6,538	13	2
1934	5,695	9	5	6,994	18	5
1935	13,432	17	0	9,212	3	0
1936	12,746	7	0	9,926	14	5
Average 5 years ...	9,462	17	2	7,844	0	9

A loan of £3,660 at 3½ per cent. from the Jamaica Government in connection with financing the repairs to roads and buildings damaged in the hurricane of 1932 is the sole public debt. In November, 1933, the Jamaica Legislature had agreed to waive interest for five years. The loan was accepted in 1934.

The Dependency has £1,000 invested as a Reserve Fund.

Digitized by Google

Taxation.

Customs Tariff.—The general ad valorem duty is 12½ per cent., and there is a preferential rate in respect of certain goods imported from the British Empire the details of which were published in the 1935 report, where there is also to be found details of other taxation. There is also a Free List consisting chiefly of goods for Government, printed matter, manures, fertilizers, insecticides.

Receipts over the past five years under the various heads of taxation are as follows:—

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs, import duties	3,704	4,348	3,208	3,322	3,522
Taxes, personal, etc. ...	515	324	455	540	603
Liquor licences ...	28	28	29	28	24
Fines of Courts ...	18	15	18	19	6
Car Drivers' licences ...	28	23	25	24	27
Warehouse rents ...	201	219	154	185	199
Payments for specific services.	31	35	23	34	26

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency the Governor accompanied by Lady Denham visited Grand Cayman on 14th March, 1936. He motored through to East End and West Bay.

The news of the death of His Late Majesty King George V was received with great sorrow by the people of the Dependency who showed their respect and affection by crowded congregations at Memorial services.

The Accession of His Majesty King Edward VIII was proclaimed at Georgetown on 22nd January, 1936.

At a special meeting of the Assembly of Justices and Vestry held on 12th December, the Abdication of His Majesty King Edward VIII was announced and immediately after a public Proclamation was made of the Accession of His Majesty King George VI.

H.M.S. *Dundee* visited Georgetown with His Excellency the Governor on board on 14th March, 1936.

The Cuban warship 20 *de Mayo* visited Georgetown twice during the year, in July and November, in connection with the transport of the Meteorological Observer.

His Majesty's Trade Commissioner stationed at Jamaica, Mr. C. M. Pickthall, paid an official visit to the Dependency in October returning early in November.

The Dependency suffered a severe loss during July when the motorship *Nunoca* with a crew and passengers totalling 22 was posted as missing. She was on a voyage from Grand Cayman to Tampa, Florida, U.S.A., and after leaving the former port

Digitized by Google

on 4th July, disappeared and no trace of her has been discovered. She was a wooden vessel of 190 tons (gross), built in Grand Cayman in 1932, and had been engaged since her launching in trading between the Dependency and Florida.

In July and August the Commissioner who was home on leave was given the opportunity of broadcasting both to Great Britain and the Empire on the Cayman Islands and their people.

The Dependency through its Chamber of Commerce took a small part in the Vancouver Jubilee celebrations by sending a consignment of live turtles for their banquets.

Mr. A. W. Cardinall, the Commissioner, proceeded on leave in March and returned to Grand Cayman at the end of October. During his absence Mr. A. C. Panton, under a Dormant Commission, acted for him.

APPENDIX.

Bibliography.

A.—Official or Semi-Official Publications.

Name.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*	*Date.*	*Price.* s.	d.
The Caymanian ...	—	In Jamaica ...	1908		2
Handbook of the Cayman Islands.	G. S. S. Hirst ...	Gleaner Co., Jamaica.	1908–9	1	6
Cayman Islands Gazette.	—	—	Occasional 1910–1913 only.		2

B.—Descriptive Publications.

Brief and Perfect Journal of the late proceedings and success of the English Army in the W. I.	L.S.	London	1665		
The Buccaneers of America.	John Esquemeling.	Amsterdam ...	1678		
History of the Pirates	C. Johnson ...	London	1724		
History of Jamaica*...	Long	London	1774		
Three Voyages of a Naturalist	M. J. Nicoll ...	Witherby & Co., London.	1908		
History of the Cayman Islands.	G. S. S. Hirst ...	Benjamin Mfg. Co., Jamaica.	1910	6	0
Cayman Islands ...	B. D. Armstrong	Junior Philatelic Society.	1911	2	0
Birds of the Cayman Islands.	P. R. Lowe ...	Ibis	1911	8	0
Natural History of Grand Cayman.	T. M. S. English	Handbook of Jamaica, 1912.	1912	—	
Life and Adventure ...	"Vaquero" ...	Bale & Danielson, London.	1914	7	6
Cayman Islands ...	F. J. Melville ...	S. Gibbons ...	1914		6
The Voyages of Captain William Jackson.	V. T. Harlow, edited.	Camden Miscellany Vol. XIII.	1923	—	
Geology of Cayman Islands.	G. A. Matley ...	Reprint from Qtr. Journal of Geological Society.	1926	—	

* 3 Vols., Book 1, Chapter XII gives a detailed account of the Cayman Islands.

Digitized by Google

GRAND CAYMAN
EASTERN DISTRICT
MIDLAND DISTRICT
WESTERN DISTRICT
GREAT SOUND
Carriage Road
Bridle Road
Lighthouse
Bodden Town
Newlands
George Town
West Bay
Boatswain Bay
Water Cay
Red Bay
Sand Cay
Frank Sound
Breakers
Old Fanna
Cottage
Spotts
Prospect
Meagre Bay
Rum Point
Conch Pt.
N.W. Point
S.W. Point
Pease Bay
Gun Bay
Cayman Brac
Little Cayman
Off Mile Bay
Deep Water Bay
Creek
Pond
Swamp
Reef
Beach
Cliff
Rocks
Coast Line
Roads
Tracks
Boundaries
Parishes
Districts
Towns
Villages
Hamlets
Churches
Schools
Post Offices
Telegraph Offices
Telephone Offices
Police Stations
Public Buildings
Hotels
Bridges
Fords
Ferries
Piers
Wharves
Landing Places
Boat Anchorages
Caves
Quarries
Cemeteries
Wells
Springs
Tanks
Cisterns
Windmills
Water Towers
Pumping Stations
Power Stations
Transformers
Overhead Power Lines
Underground Power Lines
Telephone Lines
Telegraph Lines
Railways
Tramways
Aerodromes
Seaplane Alighting Areas
Golf Courses
Tennis Courts
Cricket Grounds
Football Grounds
Polo Grounds
Racecourses
Parks
Gardens
Playgrounds
Swimming Pools
Bathing Places
Boundary Stones
Trig. Stations
Spot Heights
Contours
Hachures
Hill Shading
Vegetation
Forests
Woods
Orchards
Plantations
Scrub
Grass
Cultivation
Sand
Mangrove
Coral Reefs
Shoals
Rocks Awash
Soundings
Depth Curves
Anchorages
Prohibited Areas
Restricted Areas
Danger Areas
Magnetic Variation
Grid Lines
Graticule
Scale
Key
Legend
Title
Publication Information
Copyright
Crown Copyright
All Rights Reserved
Reproduction Prohibited
Without Permission
Surveyed
Compiled
Drawn
Printed
Published
Edition
Revised
Corrected
Authority
Director
Surveyor
Draughtsman
Lithographer
Printer
Publisher
Date
Year
Month
Day
Time
Weather
Tide
Current
Wind
Rain
Snow
Ice
Fog
Mist
Haze
Clear
Cloudy
Overcast
Fair
Foul
Good
Bad
Poor
Excellent
Navigable
Unnavigable
Dangerous
Safe
Deep
Shallow
Narrow
Wide
Long
Short
High
Low
Above
Below
Sea Level
Mean Sea Level
Datum
Feet
Fathoms
Metres
Miles
Nautical Miles
Statute Miles
Kilometres
Yards
Inches
Centimetres
Millimetres
Degrees
Minutes
Seconds
North
South
East
West
Northeast
Northwest
Southeast
Southwest
True
Magnetic
Compass
Bearing
Course
Distance
Speed
Knots
Miles per Hour
Kilometres per Hour
Feet per Second
Metres per Second
Latitude
Longitude
Position
Fix
Dead Reckoning
Estimated Position
Last Known Position
Search Area
Search Pattern
Search and Rescue
Emergency
Distress
Urgency
Safety
Routine
Priority
Immediate
Deferred
Flash
Message
Signal
Radio
Telephone
Telegraph
Cable
Wireless
Satellite
Navigation
Aid to Navigation
Buoy
Beacon
Light
Lighthouse
Lightship
Fog Signal
Sound Signal
Visual Signal
Radio Beacon
Radio Direction Finder
Radar
Sonar
Echo Sounder
Gyrocompass
Magnetic Compass
Sextant
Chronometer
Watch
Clock
Calendar
Almanac
Tide Table
Current Table
Nautical Almanac
Sailing Directions
Pilot
Pilotage
Harbour Master
Port Authority
Customs
Immigration
Quarantine
Health
Medical
Hospital
Doctor
Nurse
Ambulance
Fire
Police
Coastguard
Lifeboat
Rescue
Salvage
Wreck
Casualty
Accident
Collision
Grounding
Stranding
Sinking
Capsizing
Foundering
Abandoning
Boarding
Towing
Mooring
Anchoring
Berthing
Unberthing
Loading
Unloading
Refuelling
Victualling
Watering
Provisioning
Crew
Passengers
Cargo
Mail
Baggage
Luggage
Freight
Charter
Hire
Fare
Ticket
Booking
Reservation
Cancellation
Delay
Departure
Arrival
Transit
Stopover
Layover
Connection
Interchange
Transfer
Terminal
Station
Depot
Garage
Workshop
Office
Agency
Representative
Manager
Director
Secretary
Clerk
Typist
Accountant
Auditor
Solicitor
Barrister
Notary
Public
Witness
Oath
Affirmation
Declaration
Statutory Declaration
Affidavit
Deposition
Evidence
Testimony
Cross-examination
Re-examination
Hearing
Trial
Judgment
Order
Decree
Appeal
Court
Magistrate
Judge
Jury
Verdict
Sentence
Fine
Imprisonment
Bail
Remand
Custody
Arrest
Warrant
Summons
Subpoena
Writ
Injunction
Damages
Compensation
Restitution
Forfeiture
Confiscation
Seizure
Search
Inspection
Examination
Survey
Valuation
Appraisal
Assessment
Taxation
Duty
Tariff
Import
Export
Transit
Bond
Warehouse
Free Zone
Customs Clearance
Entry
Declaration
Manifest
Bill of Lading
Invoice
Certificate of Origin
Consular Invoice
Letter of Credit
Bill of Exchange
Promissory Note
Cheque
Draft
Remittance
Payment
Receipt
Account
Ledger
Journal
Balance Sheet
Profit and Loss
Budget
Estimate
Tender
Contract
Agreement
Memorandum of Understanding
Protocol
Treaty
Convention
Ratification
Accession
Denunciation
Reservation
Declaration
Amendment
Revision
Consolidation
Codification
Repeal
Enactment
Commencement
Interpretation
Definition
Schedule
Appendix
Table of Contents
Index
Bibliography
Footnote
Endnote
Cross-reference
Glossary
Abbreviation
Acronym
Symbol
Figure
Table
Chart
Graph
Diagram
Illustration
Photograph
Plate
Frontispiece
Dedication
Preface
Introduction
Foreword
Acknowledgement
Author
Editor
Translator
Illustrator
Publication
Publisher
Printer
Bookseller
Library
Archive
Record
Document
Manuscript
Typescript
Proof
Galley
Page
Column
Line
Word
Character
Letter
Number
Punctuation
Capital
Lowercase
Italic
Bold
Underline
Strikethrough
Superscript
Subscript
Font
Size
Style
Weight
Leading
Kerning
Tracking
Justification
Alignment
Indent
Margin
Header
Footer
Footer
Header
Footer
Header
Footer
Header

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, Y

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chich

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58–1839

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G
A

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1838

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

GRENADA, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1718 and 1789 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938
Price 9*d.* net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1838

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

GRENADA, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1718 and 1789 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 9*d.* net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF GRENADA, 1936

CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	4
III.	Population	5
IV.	Health	6
V.	Housing	8
VI.	Production	9
VII.	Commerce	10
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	11
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	12
X.	Communications and Transport	14
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	15
XII.	Public Works	15
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	17
XIV.	Legislation	18
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	20
XVI.	Land and Survey	23
	Appendix, Bibliography	24
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Situated in the extreme south of the Carribean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ north latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ west longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coastline is rugged especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, landlocked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, divide the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Sotheran
3-19-38
15-705

two small lakes formed in extinct craters; one, called the Grand Etang, is situated near the centre of the island 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast.

Climate.

The climate is good and during the months from December to the end of April, when the trade winds prevail, it is delightful.

From July to October there is greater humidity and higher temperature with little variation between night and day. The climate may be regarded as hot during this period but it is not unhealthy at any time during the year.

There is an astonishing variation of rainfall. At Belvidere, in the mountainous centre, it reached a total of 191 inches in 1936, while at Point Saline, in the extreme south, the total was 87·25 inches, and at the Richmond Hill Meteorological Station in St. George's between Belvidere and Point Saline, a total of 69·51 inches was recorded. The rainfall for the year under review was regarded as heavy, although the average over 17 recording stations was 101 inches as against an average of 111 inches during the last five years. At Carriacou, however, the rainfall fell from 61·84 inches in 1935 to 48·03 inches in 1936. Generally speaking, the weather conditions were satisfactory from an agricultural point of view. The total rainfall at St. George's for 1936 amounted to 69·51 inches as compared with 67·42 in 1935.

The highest temperature recorded in 1936 was 90° and the lowest 70°. The mean maximum was 82°, and the mean minimum 75°.

History.

Grenada was discovered by Colombus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island and, after being owned by French proprietors for some years, it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795-6, influenced by the French Revolution, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British

Digitized by Google

subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Grenada, with St. Vincent and St. Lucia to the north, form the group known as the Windward Islands, under a Governor who resides, for the most part, in Grenada. He is assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils.

The Executive Council consists of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, all *ex officio,* with such other persons as may be nominated by the Crown. The period of the appointment of members other than *ex officio* members is six years.

The Legislative Council is partly elected, and its constitution provides for an unofficial majority. It consists of four official members, four nominated members and seven elected members. The official members are the Governor, who is President and has only a casting vote, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer.

In the absence of the Governor from Grenada, the Colonial Secretary becomes Administrator of Grenada.

In the absence of the Governor from the Windward Islands, the administration of the group devolves on the officer holding a dormant commission. The Administrator of St. Lucia at present holds such a commission. If no dormant commission has been issued, the administration of the group is assumed by the senior Administrator.

Municipal affairs are largely in the hands of a District Board in each parish, composed of an equal number of nominated and elected members. The numbers vary between eight and fourteen according to the importance of the parishes.

In the island of Carriacou the affairs of the town of Hillsborough are managed by Town Wardens appointed by the Governor.

Other bodies assisting in the local Government are the Agricultural Board, the Central Water Authority, the Sanitary Authority, the Central Road Authority, the Electricity Authority, the Board of Education, the Forestry Board, and the Charity Advisory Committee with District Committees under the several District Boards.

Digitized by Google

III.—POPULATION.

The aboriginal inhabitants of Grenada were Caribs, but that race is now quite extinct. The native population is composed mainly of negroes of African descent. The population, according to the census of 1921, was composed of:—

Black	51,032
Mixed	11,673
Oriental	2,692
White	905
Total	66,302

of whom 37,455 were female and 28,847 males.

The population of St. George's, the capital, at that date was 4,629.

No census was taken in 1931, owing to financial circumstances, but the population at 31st December, 1936, was estimated at 87,105. The estimated totals at the end of the five preceding years were:—

1931	78,662
1932	81,000
1933	82,624
1934	83,888
1935	85,626

The following table indicates the birth-rate and death-rate per 1,000 during the past decade:—

Year.	*Birth-rate.*	*Death-rate.*
1927	31·29	15·6
1928	33·33	16·5
1929	32·24	16·8
1930	32·63	15·8
1931	30·24	17·2
1932	32·60	13·8
1933	32·53	14·3
1934	32·16	13·6
1935	31·07	14·3
1936	31·98	15·4
Averages	32·07	15·33

A comparison of the percentage of deaths among children up to five years of age during the past five years is given below:—

Percentage of Deaths.

Year.	*Under 1 Year.*	*1–2 Years.*	*2–3 Years.*	*3–4 Years.*	*4–5 Years.*	*Total percentages under 5 years.*	*Total Deaths.*
1932 ...	20·6	14·7	3·3	2·0	·5	41·1	1,104
1933 ...	21·5	12·1	3·8	2·3	1·2	40·9	1,179
1934 ...	23·8	13·6	2·2	2·2	1·0	42·8	1,143
1935 ...	18·5	16·2	3·9	1·2	·6	40·4	1,224
1936 ...	21·5	13·7	3·0	1·5	·8	40·5	1,348

Digitized by Google

In 1936 the death-rate per 100 births in the case of infants who died under one year of age was 10·4, as compared with 8·49 in 1935.

Marriages registered during the year totalled 341, as compared with 320 in 1935 and 409 in 1934.

The arrivals during the year were 4,102 and the departures 4,061, as against 3,549 and 3,248 respectively in 1935.

IV.—HEALTH.

The climate of the island is pleasant and healthy. Persons of European stock maintain their health and vigour after several generations. Many inhabitants whether of European, Asiatic, African or mixed origin live to an extreme old age. The general health of the population is good.

The more prevalent diseases are malaria, pulmonary tuberculosis, yaws, digestive diseases, and intestinal disorders, viz., enteric fevers, chiefly typhoid, dysentery, and diseases due to intestinal parasites.

Malaria occurs chiefly in low-lying swampy coastal areas situated between the sea and the mountainous country behind. It is usually of the more chronic and less acute type. Blackwater fever is rare and malignant types of fever are less commonly seen than formerly.

A considerable amount of anti-malaria drainage work has been carried out in some of the worst swamps and the beneficial results of these works are beginning to manifest themselves. It is hoped, as funds allow, to extend the scope of these operations.

Tuberculosis which is almost invariably of the pulmonary type shows a slight tendency to increase. Probably the increase in the number of cases notified is largely due to more thorough examination and more careful notification.

A tuberculosis hospital with accommodation for 30 patients is maintained by the Government. Up till this year this hospital was known as the Marie Louise Hospital situated at Richmond Hill. The high and exposed site was considered unsuitable for patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. A more sheltered site at a lower altitude and more protected from rain-bearing winds was therefore selected at Cherry Hill and a modern open-air hospital with the same accommodation was built and opened in the autumn.

Yaws is widely spread throughout the island. The number of cases treated has this year increased greatly. This increase is thought to be due to the fact that sufferers are more and more realizing the benefits resulting from the modern treatment of this disease, and are therefore coming forward in larger numbers for such treatment.

Digitized by Google

Intestinal disorders are usually common in the tropics. Every effort is made in this Colony to reduce their incidence by sanitary measures, including the control and protection of food, the reduction of soil pollution by the erection of latrines and the reduction of fly breeding in the more populous centres. Food supplies are regularly inspected by the sanitary staff and unwholesome food condemned. Scavenging is regularly carried out in the townships.

Hookworm shows a slight tendency to decrease and treatment is regularly given to those infected.

Enteric fever is notifiable. Whenever possible, cases are removed to hospital for treatment. Premises are disinfected and contacts inoculated.

Medical Services.—The Colony is divided into eight districts, seven in the island of Grenada, and the eighth is formed by the dependency of Carriacou. The Government maintains a Medical Officer in each district, who is also responsible for the public health of the district.

There are three hospitals provided by the Government:—The Colony Hospital situated at St. George's with accommodation for 150 in-patients. This hospital is in charge of a resident surgeon, and here all operative work is performed, and radiological work is done. Probationer nurses undergo a course of four years training for certification at this hospital. The St. Andrew's Hospital situated at Grenville on the north-east of the island with accommodation for 23 in-patients.

The Bel Air Hospital situated at Carriacou with accommodation for 30 in-patients.

Confinement cases receive attention at all these hospitals, the total number of confinements during the year being 534 with two deaths. Out-patients are also seen daily at each hospital. The total number of in-patients treated during the year was 2,349.

A chain of 17 medical visiting stations placed in the rural districts affords additional medical aid to those living in country areas. A trained nurse resides at each station and attends daily to all in need of treatment. She also attends all confinements in the district and advises the mothers as to the care of their children. The District Medical Officer attends each visiting station in his district once a week and undertakes any special work such as injections for yaws.

The Government also provides a Mental Hospital, with accommodation for 144 inmates, and a House of Refuge for destitute and aged persons suffering from chronic and incurable diseases, with accommodation for 98 inmates.

A Settlement is maintained by the Government for the care and treatment of persons suffering from leprosy. This disease is not endemic in the Colony, the lepers under treatment

Digitized by Google

having apparently contracted the disease during their residence elsewhere. The number of inmates at present is 14.

Sanitation.—The sanitation of the island is under the control of the Sanitary Authority. This is a Board consisting of members of the local District Boards, two Medical Officers, the Superintendent of Public Works and the Port Officer under the chairmanship of the Senior Medical Officer who is also executive officer. A Sanitary Inspector is stationed in each district and works under the supervision of the District Medical Officers. He is responsible for anti-malarial and anti-mosquito work, dealing with collections of larvae by oiling or filling, draining, etc., inspection of compounds and houses for mosquito and fly breeding, disinfection of houses, and general sanitation of his district.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—All the nurses training at the Colony Hospital receive instruction in midwifery and are required to pass an examination in this subject before receiving their certificate as trained nurses.

A Child Welfare League in the town of St. George's is controlled by lady volunteer workers and distributes free supplies of condensed milk to poor mothers for their infants, who are seen weekly at the clinic situated at the Colony Hospital, when the children are weighed, examined, and the mothers are given necessary advice.

The nurses stationed at the district visiting stations also advise the mothers in rural areas as to the care and management of young children.

Water Supply.—A great asset to the public health of the Colony is the excellent pipe-borne water supply, which is widely spread throughout the island and gives all through the year a practically unlimited supply of pure water both to the towns and the rural districts.

V.—HOUSING.

The type of house occupied by the peasantry is usually built of imported deal boards or shingles. Such houses are usually built on small supporting piles necessitated by the uneven nature of the ground. They contain not more than two rooms about ten feet by eight, and occasionally possess a small verandah or gallery. The roofs of these are either shingles or thatch, but roofs made from galvanized iron or flattened oil tins are becoming increasingly common. Mud and wattle huts with a thatched roof of cane grass are also used by the poorer peasantry; these are small, ill-ventilated and with only a mud floor. The first mentioned type of house when new or kept in a good state of repair appears quite satisfactory, apart from the almost universal overcrowding. Unfortunately a considerable

Digitized by Google

percentage are in poor condition and generally dilapidated, and leaking. It must here be said that the Grenada peasantry are as a whole a cleanly people both in their persons and houses, and considering the conditions under which they live the interior of their houses is remarkably clean.

Inspections of houses of all classes are carried out by the Sanitary Department as a routine measure.

There is one Building Society in the Colony, established in 1925.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The wholesome upward tendency in the value of agricultural exports which began in 1933 has been maintained.

Year.	*Value of Exports.* £
1934	192,383
1935	220,391
1936	255,308

Crops and values in order of importance are given hereunder for the year 1936:—

	£
Cocoa	123,615
Nutmegs and mace	103,694
Bananas	12,592
Lime and by-products	6,456
Cotton and cotton-seed	5,866
Coconut products	2,047

More attention has been paid to working of fields in 1936 than for the previous five years. Cocoa regeneration work is progressing slowly, poor bearers being replaced by heavy ones of the higher type of Forastera.

Relative quantity and value of cocoa, nutmegs and mace exported during the last five years are:—

	Cocoa.		*Nutmegs.*		*Mace.*	
Year.	*Quantity.* *Cwt.*	*Value.* £	*Quantity.* *Cwt.*	*Value.* £	*Quantity.* *Cwt.*	*Value.* £
1932	87,836	101,231	27,305	36,859	4,181	23,090
1933	91,339	106,535	28,287	37,024	4,416	22,476
1934	77,423	100,743	31,284	48,778	4,402	25,103
1935	80,499	97,404	29,416	56,754	5,120	40,848
1936	9,066	123,615	27,738	61,617	5,187	42,077

Cotton continues the staple crop of the Carriacou Dependency. Marie Galante is the variety grown but experimental work on the Antilles is still being prosecuted by Government.

Clove planting is being extended in the highlands. The year under review gives every indication of a good clove crop which it is proposed to export to British Guiana and Canada.

The first year of the newly erected sugar factory at Woodlands seemed fairly successful. 6,294 tons of canes were harvested and bought and 732 tons of sugar produced. Unrefined sugar is not exported.

Digitized by Google

This is the third year of contract with the United Fruit Company for the supply of bananas. Whilst interest continues to be evinced in this industry's progress, the returns to date are somewhat disappointing. Interest seems to have slackened and planters maintain that, if a little more were paid for stems, a stimulus might be given to the industry. Peasant production is unsatisfactory, being a little over 10 per cent. of the whole.

No appreciable extension of lime cultivation has taken place. "Wither tip" materially reduced certain areas under cultivation in districts of heavy rainfall, but this would seem to be counterbalanced by the coming into bearing of young cultivations in the lower belt. Only West Indian limes are grown.

Rum is manufactured at nine sugar estates, but none of this product is exported. The quantity made last year was 30,036·8 gallons.

Ice is manufactured at a Government factory in St. George's and at a private factory in Beausejour, three miles from the capital.

The staple products of the Colony are almost entirely exported, and there are no records from which local consumption can be ascertained.

Production in all cases is entirely a matter of individual effort. There is ample labour and no recruiting is necessary.

There is no established fishing industry, but supplies of good fresh fish are obtainable and there are several good fishing grounds near the Grenadines. The fishermen do not venture far from land, and pursue their occupation in small canoes and shallow boats.

VII.—COMMERCE.

There has been an increase in trade during 1936, the total value of the import and export trade amounting to £568,967 as compared with £527,484 in 1935.

Imports.

The principal articles imported during the last three years were as follows:—

Article.	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1934.*
	£	£	£
Flour	37,647	29,658	31,171
Cotton piece-goods	24,318	20,942	19,701
Fish, dried	9,797	9,836	8,583
Wood, etc., unmanufactured ...	9,969	8,407	10,137
Boots and shoes	7,162	7,008	8,321
Rice	10,978	9,861	8,646
Sugar, unrefined	354	6,513	7,731
Motor cars	8,927	7,934	5,401
Motor spirits	4,403	4,390	6,130
Kerosene oil	4,219	3,978	4,155
Motor parts and tyres	4,895	4,594	3,845
Hardware	5,414	4,481	4,329

Digitized by Google

Exports.

The principal exports during the last three years were as under:—

Article.	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1934.*
	£	£	£
Cocoa	123,615	97,404	100,743
Spices, nutmegs...	61,617	56,754	48,778
Spices, mace	42,077	40,848	25,103
Lime oil	6,385	9,847	6,862
Cotton, raw	4,703	5,886	4,101
Cotton seed	1,163	1,936	1,298
Bananas	12,592	4,257	1,414

The sources of supply of imports and destination of exports in 1936 may be seen from the following table:—

	Imports.	*Percentage of total.*	*Exports.*	*Percentage of total.*
	£		£	
United Kingdom	143,986	51	96,435	33·6
United States of America	25,484	9	74,782	26·1
Canada	39,742	14·1	59,124	20·6
Other British Possessions	50,478	17·9	37,733	13·2
Other Foreign Countries ...	22,690	8	18,513	6·5

The percentages of imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom show a slight decrease compared with the figures for 1935, which were 52.9 per cent. and 41.4 per cent. respectively.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard weekly rates of wages for the labouring classes, agricultural, manual, and artisan, have not changed during 1936, though owing to the low prices still obtaining for staple products, estates have been compelled again to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days of employment per week. Those employed obtain on the average two to three days' work per week. There are indications that there will be improvements in this respect in 1937.

Ruling daily rates are:—

	Men.	*Women.*
Agricultural	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Manual	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Semi-skilled	1s. to 3s.	1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.
Skilled	3s. to 8s.	—

In May, 1935, a Minimum Wage Committee was appointed to inquire into the rates of wages paid to agricultural labourers, and to consider whether such rates were reasonable having regard to the general economic position of the Colony. The Committee held meetings in various townships of the island, and as a result of their recommendations a minimum rate of wages

Digitized by Google

for agricultural labourers was fixed by law in August, 1935, at 1s. a day for a man and 10d. a day for a woman.

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies from 10s. to 16s. for housemaids and yard boys, 15s. to 20s. for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given the rate of wages is increased by about 10s. a month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows:—

Beef	6d. per lb.
Mutton, fresh	8d. ,,
Pork, fresh	8d. ,,
Chicken	6d. ,,
Fish, fresh	6d. ,,
Eggs	1s. to 1s. 6d. per doz.
Milk	3d. per bot.
Potatoes	2½d. per lb.
Rice	2½d. ,,
Butter	1s. 8d. ,,
Sugar	2½d. ,,
Bread	3d. ,,
Flour...	2d. ,,

Board and lodging can be had at £8 to £9 a month. It is estimated that two people could live comfortably on £35 to £40 a month or, with a more restricted range of activity, on £20 to £25 a month.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The attendance figures in the primary schools for 1936 were 12,809 on the roll and 8,222 in average attendance. These were somewhat lower than those of the previous year which were 13,343 and 8,253, respectively.

On 20th May a new Education Bill was introduced into the Council, and, after various vicissitudes, received the Governor's assent on 30th November. Among its most important provisions were the establishment of a non-sectarian Board, and the combination of the Primary and Secondary Education Ordinances into one; and it gave to the Governor more direct control in educational matters.

A very satisfactory Health Week was held during the month of March. A series of addresses was given throughout the schools of the Colony, not only by the various medical officers but by the district sanitary inspectors and nurses. The annual observance of these Health Weeks is evidently doing some good. It is noteworthy how in each succeeding year the numbers of parents who attend the meetings increase, and how the general interest gradually grows.

Digitized by Google

In the month of July a Handwork Exhibition was held. It was a distinct improvement on that of the previous year, the quantity and quality of exhibits being extremely good. These exhibitions have now become annual events and are looked forward to by teachers and pupils alike. The shield which was last year presented by the Governor for the school making the best display was on this occasion won by the Beaulieu Roman Catholic School. Six other schools received special Diplomas of Merit.

Fourteen candidates entered for the London Matriculation Examination in June, and of these 12 entered for the Grenada Scholarship. This was won by Mr. Sydney Gun-Munro, a candidate from the Grenada Boys Secondary School.

The average attendance of the Grenada Boys Secondary School has improved from 118 in 1935 to 148, with eight boarders. Owing to increased numbers a new master has been added to the staff.

During the Easter vacation the boys of the school visited St. Lucia for the regular annual inter-colonial sporting events between the boys attending the secondary schools of the three islands of the Windward Group, and in the month of August the boys entertained as guests a party of boys from the Queen's Royal College in Trinidad, who evidently had a most enjoyable time. The Headmaster hopes to make this a regular annual event.

The manual training centres in St. George's and in the other Districts continue to do good work. The boys attending are very keen, and the instructors send in good reports.

Agricultural instruction in the schools has taken on a new lease of life.

Fifteen schools now have school gardens, and every year it is planned to add to the list. Some of the Head Teachers take a special interest in this important subject. The Grier Cup, given annually to the school having the best garden, was won this year by the St. John's Anglican School.

There is no Government girls school, but three secondary schools for girls receive grants-in-aid from the Government. Domestic science is being taught at the St. Joseph's Convent High School by a specially trained teacher.

The island was visited in December, 1936, by the newly appointed Education Commissioners, in the course of their first tour of the Windward and Leeward Islands. The object of this first visit was not to make specific recommendations, but to gather information both upon the schools themselves and, so far as they were able in the time at their disposal, upon the social and economic conditions in which the schools are working.

Digitized by Google

Welfare Institutions.

There is a home in St. George's for destitute children, opened in 1934. The number of children being cared for is fourteen, which is the maximum capacity of the home.

The home is administered by the St. George's District Board, and the Government pays an annual subsidy, which has been increased to £100 in 1936, towards its expenses.

The following Welfare Organizations do useful work:—

(i) The Fellowship of Service, which is entirely dependent on voluntary contributions, distributes money, clothes and food once a week.

(ii) The Salvation Army provides a night shelter with food for the poor in St. George's.

(iii) The Baby Welfare League distributes free milk to infants and provides free medical examination at the clinic. Government subscribes £75 per annum to this organization.

(iv) The Foresters Social Workers League supplies free food to school children and poor persons in St. George's.

(v) The Hamilton Almshouse maintains six distressed old women. It is granted £30 per annum by Government.

(vi) The House of Refuge for the destitute and sick is maintained by Government. It can accommodate 98 persons (see section referring to Medical Services under Chapter IV).

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

By Sea.

A fortnightly mail, passenger, and cargo service was established at the end of 1928 by the Canadian National Steamships Company, the service being undertaken by modern oil-burning vessels with excellent passenger accommodation and equipped with cold storage. The steamers start from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and land passengers on the return journey at St. John's, New Brunswick, proceeding afterwards to Halifax to load for the voyage south. These steamers call also at Boston, Massachusetts, during the summer.

Steamers of the Furness Withy Line supply a direct passenger and cargo service between Grenada and New York, calling at intervals of about fourteen days. The voyage occupies seven days.

There is a regular direct monthly service to London by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, while frequent calls are made by cargo steamers of this company, especially during the crop season from December to May.

Digitized by Google

The cargo steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line from New York and from Canadian ports call at intervals of about a fortnight.

Steamers of the American Caribbean Line bound for New York call fortnightly.

Numerous sailing vessels ply between Grenada and Trinidad, Barbados and other neighbouring Colonies.

By Cable and Wireless.

The cable line of Cable and Wireless Limited connects Grenada with the outside world. The company also maintains a wireless station in St. George's, but this is not in operation at the present time. A subsidiary Government-owned wireless station at Carriacou communicates with Grenada direct or via Barbados.

By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service. A telephone service, recently reconstructed, has been maintained by Government for many years. Inclusive of Carriacou there are seven exchanges and over 6,500 miles of subscribers' lines. The number of subscribers in 1936 was 761.

The island is well equipped with roads. All the first class roads and practically all the second class and third class roads are suitable for motor traffic. The total mileage is 450.

There are regular services of motor omnibuses between all the towns.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Branches of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) and of the Royal Bank of Canada are established in St. George's with agencies in Grenville.

English coinage is in use and five dollar notes, issued by the two Banks, are in circulation.

A co-operative bank was established in 1932, but there is no agricultural bank in the Colony.

Imperial weights and measures are standard.

Trinidad Government currency notes were made legal tender in this Colony as from 1st November, 1935.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for all Government engineering work, including roads, bridges, buildings, water-works, land drainage, machinery, harbour, electric lighting, cold storage, telephone, etc., and conducts all surveys and controls all Crown Lands.

Digitized by Google

Works throughout the Colony are controlled by the Superintendent of Public Works, and the staff consists of two assistants, one electrician and one mechanic at headquarters, and three District Road Surveyors.

The total expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1936, was £58,000 inclusive of a sum of over £24,000 expended under the Colonial Development and other loan funds.

Roads.—No new roads were opened during the year, but the Department continued to maintain a total of 450 miles of established roads, of which 100 miles are surface-treated with bitumen and about 250 miles metalled.

Special works included the provision of 33 culverts and the re-surfacing of nine miles of bitumen-surfaced roadway in the Western District, and the construction of a 50-ft. span steel truss bridge in reinforced concrete. Two sea-defence walls and one retaining wall were repaired and underpinned, and one retaining wall was built.

In connection with roads serving the banana industry 9½ miles were reconstructed and surface-treated with colas and oil, a concrete and steel bridge with a 36-ft span was constructed and two small steel bridges were reconstructed in reinforced concrete. A 16-ft. span culvert and a 20-ft. span bridge of reinforced concrete were also constructed.

In connection with roads serving the sugar-producing area, 3¾ miles were reconstructed and surface-treated with emulsion, of which 1¼ miles were in the form of two wheel strips each 2½ ft. wide.

Buildings.—Work on the construction of a large steel shed for handling bananas for shipment, and a new hospital for consumptives, commenced in 1935, was carried to completion. Two large primary school buildings, one in St. George's and the other in Carriacou were erected during the year.

Water Works.—New works were constructed at Bellevue, St. Andrew's.

Surveys.—The survey and subdivision of St. Cloud Estate, St. Andrew's, purchased for land settlement, was carried out under the supervision of the Department, and roads and a bridge were provided for the use of settlers.

Land Drainage.—Swampy areas in the parish of St. Andrew's and St. Patrick's were drained and filled during the year.

Sanitation.—Estimates were prepared for the proposed sewerage scheme for St. George's town.

Electric Light and Power.—An extension of the pole line to Woodlands, a distance of approximately 1½ miles, was commenced but not quite completed.

Digitized by Google

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

For purposes of the administration of justice, the following courts are established, viz., the Supreme Court, presided over by the Chief Justice, and Magistrates' Courts. There is a Police Magistrate in each of the two magisterial districts into which Grenada is divided, and the Commissioner of Carriacou is Magistrate of that district.

The appointment of an additional Magistrate for Carriacou was made in 1936.

The jurisdiction exercised by the Supreme Court, and the practice and procedure therein, are regulated by the Supreme Court Ordinance and codes of criminal and civil procedure, with a provision for recourse to the Practice, Orders and Rules of the High Court of Justice in England, where no express provision is contained in the local Civil Procedure Code. Criminal proceedings for offences sent up for trial from the Magistrates' Courts are instituted in his discretion by the Attorney-General, and are conducted by him on behalf of the Crown.

Prosecutions by the police in the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by police non-commissioned officers except in important cases, when the Legal Assistant prosecutes.

In the year under review 2,288 persons were convicted.

The cases of praedial larceny show a reduction on the two previous years. There were 214 convictions, as against 232 in 1935 and 216 in 1934. There were 35 convictions in the Supreme Court, as compared with 23 in 1935 and 28 in 1934. The increases were in respect of " other offences against the person " and " other offences against property ".

Cases against juvenile offenders are heard in a separate building and at a different time from ordinary cases.

Time is allowed for the payment of fines imposed in the Courts.

The man charged with the murder which was committed in the previous year was convicted and hanged, but cases of serious crime are rare in Grenada.

Police.

The strength of the Force on 31st December, 1936, was one officer in command, one inspector and 93 non-commissioned officers and men. The Force was increased by five men during 1936. Two hundred and thirteen rural constables were employed on special occasions.

There has been an appreciable addition to police duties due to the increase in recent years in the number of praedial larceny

Digitized by Google

cases. This is a direct result of the new Produce Ordinance which permits the sale of wet cocoa, coupled with an improvement in the price of produce.

In addition to its ordinary duties, the Police Department assists in the protection of revenue, inspection of shops and weights and measures, enquiries into poor relief and repatriation cases, and maintains a visual signalling station for communication with naval vessels while in port.

Relief operators are furnished for the wireless station at Carriacou which is operated by the Post Office Department, and in the event of a breakdown a heliographic service is supplied by the Police in its place. The Department also provides relief for magistrates' bailiffs.

Prisons.

A prison for males with an adjacent separate building for females is situated near Richmond Hill, St. George's. In both prisons there is an infirmary for sick prisoners.

During the year, 207 persons were committed to the male and 28 to the female section respectively, the total being made up as follows:—

	Males.	*Females.*
Grenada	167	25
St. Vincent	20	—
Other places	40	3

Prisoners of 25 years of age and under formed about 44 per cent. of the total.

There were two deaths, one by execution and one from natural causes. On the whole, the general health of the institution was satisfactory.

Two prisoners were transferred to the Mental Hospital.

During the periods 1st to 17th January, and 16th to 31st December, there were no prisoners in the female section.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

In the year 1936, 44 Ordinances were passed of which the more imporant were the following:—

No. 1. *The Motor Spirit Dealers Licensing Ordinance,* 1936, was passed to provide for the licensing of Dealers in Motor Spirit.

No. 2. *The Magistrates Protection Ordinance,* 1936, makes provision for the protection of Magistrates and Justices for acts done in the execution of their office.

No. 3. *The Road Cess Ordinance,* 1936, imposes a "cess" on manufactured articles and produce in Grenada.

Digitized by Google

No. 15. *The Deportation (British Subjects) Ordinance,* 1936, aims at regulating the deportation of undesirable British subjects and British-protected persons and for similar purposes.

No. 16. *The Immigration (Restriction) Ordinance,* 1936, seeks to impose restrictions on immigration.

No. 18. *The Law Reform (Married Women and Tort-Feasors) Ordinance,* 1936, amends the law relating to the capacity, property, and liabilities of married women and the liabilities of husbands; it also amends the law relating to the proceedings against, and contributions between joint tort-feasors and abolishes the husband's liability for his wife's torts and ante-nuptial contracts, debts and obligations.

No. 20. *The Intestates Estates Ordinance,* 1936, replaces the law relating to distribution of property on the death of the owner thereof, and provides for the abolition of descent to heir, curtesy dower and escheats. The Ordinance relates to undisposed property and provides new rules of succession on intestacy.

No. 21. *Magistrates Ordinance,* 1936, consolidates and amends the law relating to Magistrates and Justices of the Peace.

No. 24. *The Loan Ordinance,* 1936, authorizes a loan for the execution of certain public works, viz., water-borne sewerage in St. George's, reconstruction of roads, bridges, etc., construction of a deep-water pier in the Carenage, St. George's, erection of a Secondary School building in St. George's, and for improvements to the St. George's water supply.

No. 25. *The St. George's Sewerage Ordinance,* 1936, was passed to provide for a sewerage system for the town of St. George's and for other matters in connection therewith.

No. 28. *The Magistrates Judgments (Appeals) Ordinance,* 1936, embodies the provisions of the Magistrates Ordinance referable to appeals, and also introduces certain principles which bring the legislation on the subject in line with modern enactments of a similar kind in other Colonies.

No. 30. *The Dangerous Drugs Ordinance,* 1936, makes provision for the extension of the Dangerous Drugs Act to drugs capable of being converted into dangerous drugs, and gives effect to a Convention signed at Geneva on behalf of His Majesty on the 13th July, 1931, now applied to this Colony. The Ordinance embodies and consolidates the latest legislation on this subject.

No. 34. *The Criminal Code (Amendment) (No. 2),* enables a jury, upon indictment of a woman for the murder

Digitized by Google

of her newly-born child, to return a verdict of manslaughter, or a verdict of guilty but insane, or a verdict of concealment of the birth of such child. The Ordinance also provides for the acceptance by the Court of a majority verdict, where such verdict is that of concealment of the body of a child.

No. 37. *The Mercantile Law Ordinance,* 1936, seeks to enable bankers and other lenders to make temporary loans against warehouse receipts or bills of lading.

No. 42. *Education Ordinance* amends and consolidates the law relating to Primary and Secondary Education in the Colony, and provides for the appointment of an Education Board and includes provision for the training of teachers and the award of a Grenada and Agricultural Scholarship.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources amounted to £141,604, exclusive of the receipts from the Colonial Development Fund of £8,631.

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue in respect of the five years ending 31st December, 1936:—

Head.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	58,206	62,548	66,956	71,815	70,093
Harbour and Cargo Dues	2,680	2,654	2,883	3,153	3,298
Licences, Excise, etc. ...	28,793	26,567	26,718	27,600	31,080
Estate Duties	4,896	1,448	899	988	514
Income Tax	4,243	4,473	4,163	4,353	4,866
Fees of Office, etc. ...	6,095	8,069	5,684	6,385	5,923
Post Office	2,929	2,364	4,675	5,715	6,669
Telephones and Electric Light.	7,980	8,027	8,659	8,573	9,298
Water Supplies	2,837	2,875	3,933	4,273	4,815
Revenue from Government Property.	25,489	6,076	4,357	1,274	1,279
Interest and Sinking Funds, etc.	1,390	1,231	4,994	5,309	3,036
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	197	918	241	197	207
Land Sales	168	177	172	215	526
Colonial Development Works.	19,221	13,481	9,164	11,340	8,631
Repatriation Payment ...	6,084	—	—	—	—
Reimbursement from Loan Fund for expenditure on Western Main Road.	29,247	356	—	—	—
Grant from Imperial Government under Trade Facilities Act.	500	—	—	—	—
Grant from Rockefeller Foundation.	525	—	—	—	—
Total Revenue ...	£201,480	£141,264	£143,498	£151,190	£150,235

Digitized by Google

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year was £143,396 being less than the revenue by £6,839.

The following table shows the total expenditure during the last five years:—

	£
1932	155,343
1933	141,741
1934	153,778
1935	146,662
1936	143,396

The expenditure for the year 1936 includes £7,316 on schemes assisted under the Colonial Development Act.

Public Debt.

The net indebtedness of the Colony under Public Loans, after deduction of the amounts represented by Sinking Funds and repayments at the end of 1936 was £377,523 7s. 0d.

The particulars of the Loans are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Sundry Debenture Holders, Local Loan Ordinance, 1917...	55,790	0	0
Stockholders for Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan.	40,712	9	4
Loan for construction of St. Andrew's Market	6,905	2	7
St. Andrew's Water Supply Extension Loan	3,598	19	5
Colonial Development Loans	56,082	14	6
National Debt Commissioners of the United Kingdom for loss on Cable System.	3,080	8	0
Road Loan	29,307	17	6
Sundry Public Works Loan	24,885	9	11
Public Works Loan, 1936	166,600	0	0
Total Loans	386,963	1	3
Sinking Fund accumulated towards redemption of above...	9,439	14	3
Net Indebtedness	£377,523	7	0

Debentures under the Local Loan Ordinance, 1917, to the amount of £3,800 were redeemed during the year.

Assets.

The excess of assets over liabilities at 31st December, 1936, was £90,866, which includes £31 excess expenditure to 31st December, 1936, on Colonial Development Works to be collected from the Colonial Development Fund in 1937. The total liquid surplus assets of the Colony (inclusive of Reserve Fund) at

Digitized by Google

31st December, 1936, was £72,392, and the balance is made up as follows:—

	£	£	£
Loans to District Boards	3,070		
Loans to Central Water Authority	12,120	15,190	
Less accumulated Sinking Fund		8,244	6,946
Public Works and Electricity Stores ...			4,998
Colony Drug Store			1,038
Grenada Land Settlement			165
Queen's Park Pavilion Advance Account ...			621
Overdraft by St. George's District Board ...			63
Overdraft by St. Patrick's District Board...			106
Other Advances			4,537
			£18,474

Taxation.

The first schedule to the Customs Duties Ordinance enumerates a list of articles under various headings on which import duties are collected.

Generally the rates of *ad valorem* duties are 15 per cent. British preferential tariff, and 22½ per cent. general tariff. The important exceptions at 31st December were as follows:—

Apparel.	*British Preferential.*	*General.*
Shirts	12½ per cent.	3s. per dozen.
Men's underwear ...	12½ ,, ,,	1s. ,, ,,
Neckties	12½ ,, ,,	7d. ,, ,,
Other kinds	12½ ,, ,,	25 per cent. or 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, whichever is higher.
Boots and shoes :—		
Wholly or partly of rubber.	15 ,, ,,	22½ per cent. and 1s. per pair.
Other kinds	15 ,, ,,	25 per cent.
Motor cars and trucks and parts thereof.	15 ,, ,,	35 ,, ,,
Hardware and metal manufactures.	12½ ,, ,,	22½ ,, ,,

The following specific rates of duty on spirits and tobacco were in force at 31st December, 1936:—

	British Preferential Tariff.	*General Tariff.*
Brandy ...	Overproof 20s. od. per proof gallon.	22s. 6d. per proof gallon.
	Underproof 15s. od. per gallon.	16s. 6d. per gallon.
Gin ...	Overproof 17s. 6d. per proof gallon.	20s. od. per proof gallon.
	Underproof 13s. 6d. per gallon.	15s. od. per gallon.
Rum ...	Overproof 13s. 6d. per proof gallon.	15s. od. per proof gallon.
	Underproof 13s. 6d. per gallon.	15s. od. per gallon.
Whisky ...	Overproof 20s. od. per proof gallon.	22s. 6d. per proof gallon.
	Underproof 15s. od. per gallon.	16s. 6d. per gallon.
Cordials and liqueurs ...	17s. 6d. per gallon.	20s. od. per gallon.
Tobacco, unmanufactured.	1s. od. per lb.	1s. 6d. per lb.
Tobacco, manufactured :		
Cigars, cigarettes ...	10s. od. per lb.	14s. od. per lb.
Other manufactured tobacco.	7s. od. per lb.	9s. od. per lb.

Digitized by Google

Export duty is levied on the following local products:—

Cocoa	6d. per cwt.
Cotton	1s. per cwt.
Cotton seed	3d. per cwt.
Nutmegs	6d. per cwt.
Mace	1s. per cwt.
Lime juice (concentrated) ...	1s. per 100 gallons.
Lime juice (raw)	3d. per 100 gallons.
Lime oil	6d. per lb.
Copra	3d. per cwt.

Excise duty on rum made in the Colony was collected at 5s. per proof gallon during the year.

Total collections of Excise duty in 1936 amounted to £8,941 13s. 3d., the total proof gallonage delivered for consumption being 35,827·6. This amount is £1,658 14s. 6d. more than in 1935. Trade duty at 2s. 6d. per proof gallon is collected on all imported spirits, and 2s. 1d. per proof gallon on local rum, delivered for consumption; the total amount collected being £4,254 14s. 1d.

Under the Taxes Management Ordinance, land tax is payable at the rate of 1s. per acre or part of an acre, and tax on houses varies according to the rental value, from 5s. to 42s. per house. Houses assessed at a value exceeding £30 per annum pay 8 per cent. of such value.

Income tax is levied on all incomes exceeding £100. The rates are on a graduated scale which rises from 6d. in the £ to 5s. 6d. in the £. A flat rate is paid by trading companies at 3s. on every £, and by life insurance companies at 1s. 0½d. on every £.

XVI.—LAND AND SURVEY.

Land in the possession of the Crown is small in area, and consists principally of afforested mountain ridges for preservation of the rainfall and conservation of water in catchment areas of water supplies.

An outstanding feature in Grenada is the comparatively large number of smallholdings. Under a system of land settlement schemes, several fair-sized properties have been acquired by Government from time to time and, after division into small lots, re-sold to peasants on favourable terms spread over a number of years.

Continued efforts are being made to find land for peasant settlement but each year it becomes increasingly difficult to obtain suitable land at a reasonable price.

A report on forestry problems in the Windward and Leeward Islands was prepared by Mr. A. Winbush, Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras, as a result of a visit to the islands early in the year.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX.

List of Publications relating to GRENADA.

The Grenada Blue Book, 1936.

The Grenada Handbook, 1927.

Report on a Malaria Survey by the Rockefeller Foundation, 1929.

Report on Geological Survey of Grenada and the Grenadines by Dr. K. W. Earle, 1932.

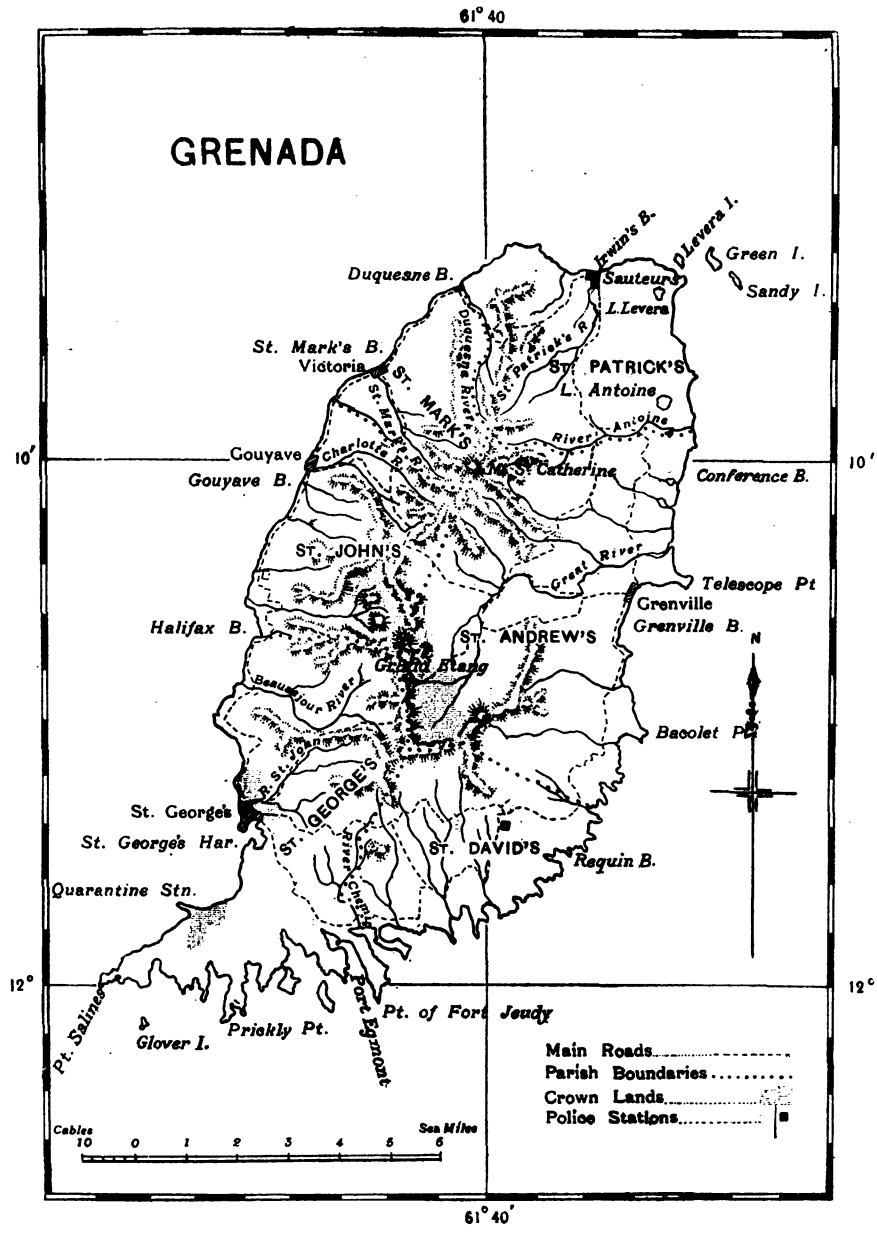
Report on Forestry in Grenada by Captain R. C. Marshall, 1932.

Report on the Forestry Problems of the Windward and Leeward Islands by Mr. A. Wimbush, 1936.

Report on Nutmeg Industry by the Imperial Institute, 1932.

Report on Geological Survey of Carriacou by Dr. E. H. Lehner, 1935.

Digitized by Google



(46754—48) Wt. 3053—3951 625 1/38 P. St. G. 377/ 7

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. 111] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent [illegible] Chichester Street

or through

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1838

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
.G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1837.

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

BRITISH GUIANA, 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1728 (Price 2s. 0d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1765 (Price 1s. 6d.).

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 1s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1837.

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

BRITISH GUIANA, 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1728 (Price 2s. 0d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1765 (Price 1s. 6d.).

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 1s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BRITISH GUIANA FOR THE YEAR 1936.

CONTENTS.

Chapter.		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	4
III.	Population	7
IV.	Health	9
V.	Housing	11
VI.	Production	12
VII.	Commerce...	18
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	22
IX.	Education	23
X.	Communications and Transport	25
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures ...	28
XII.	Public Works	30
XIII.	Justice, Police and Prisons	31
XIV.	Legislation	36
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	38
XVI.	Customs Tariff	41
XVII.	Miscellaneous	43
XVIII.	Government Publications	43
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The Colony of British Guiana, which, it is interesting to note, is the only British possession on the South American Continent, lies between the first and ninth degress of North latitude and the fifty-seventh and sixty-first degrees of West longitude, and has a sea-board of roughly 270 miles, extending from near the mouth of the Orinoco River on the west to the Corentyne River on the east. The Colony is bounded on the north by the Atlantic Ocean, on the south and south-west by Brazil, on the east by the Dutch colony of Surinam, and on the west by Venezuela, and is divided into the three counties of Essequibo, Demerara, and Berbice. It has an area of approximately 90,000 square miles, of which only 198 square miles along the coast and up the rivers are cultivated, and only 4,178 square miles have been alienated under firm title.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Sotheran
3-19-38
15-2-06

The climate is a naturally healthy one for the tropics. On the coastal region there are two wet and two dry seasons in the year. The long wet season usually commences about the middle of April and lasts until the middle of August. This is followed by the long dry season, which extends to the middle of November. From the middle of November to the end of January there is a short wet season, while a short dry season follows from the beginning of February to the middle of April. In the forest region of the interior the usual contrast between the wet and dry seasons is less marked than on the coast. In the Savannah region in the far interior the rainfall is less than that registered in either of the other two. The mean temperature in the shade ranges in the coastal regions from 79° F. to 82° F., the mean maximum registering from 83° F. to 87° F., and the mean minimum from 74·5° F. to 76·5°F. Fresh sea-breezes blow steadily, almost without intermission in the day-time during the greater part of the year. During the months of January, February and March they continue both day and night and make life pleasant for the European. The general direction of the wind is north-east, east-north-east, or east. Occasionally, however, during the wet months of the year, a land-breeze is experienced from the south-east, south, or south-west, and with this wind the heaviest falls of rain occur. The wind varies from " gentle " to " fresh " and gales are exceedingly rare. During 1936 the mean shade temperature as recorded at the Botanic Gardens, Georgetown, was 80·7° F., which is higher than the average from 1846-1935, and 77·6° F. at the Forest Station, Mazaruni River. At Georgetown the absolute maximum was 92·5° F. and the absolute minimum 71° F. The total rainfall for the year was 104·09 ins.

The principal languages spoken in the Colony are English and different Indian languages.

The Colony was first partly settled between 1616 and 1621 by the Dutch West India Company, who erected a fort and depôt at Fort Kyk-over-al in the present county of Essequibo. In 1624 a settlement was founded on the Berbice River by Van Peere, a Flushing merchant, under licence from the Company. The first English attempt at settlement was made by Captain Leigh on the O'apock River (now in French Guiana) in 1604. The effort, though followed up by Robert Harcourt in 1613 and 1627, failed to establish a permanent settlement. Lord Willoughby, famous in the early history of Barbados, also turned his attention to Guiana and founded a settlement in Surinam in 1663, which was captured by the Dutch in 1667 and ceded to them at the Peace of Breda in exchange for New York. The Dutch retained their hold on the territory with more or less firmness, now yielding to England, now to France or Portugal, till 1796, when during the war of the French

Digitized by Google

Revolution it was captured by a British fleet sailing from Barbados. The territory was restored to the Dutch in 1802, but was retaken by Great Britain in the following year, and finally ceded to her in 1814.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Constitution, as it existed up to 1891, may be summed up very briefly. It consisted of a Governor, a Court of Policy, and a Combined Court. The functions of an Executive and Legislative Council and House of Assembly were performed by the Governor and Court of Policy, except as regards taxation and finance, which were dealt with by the Combined Court composed of the Governor and Members of the Court of Policy, together with six financial representatives. The laws of the Colony were enacted by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy, with the exception of the Annual Tax and Customs Duties Ordinance, which were enacted by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Combined Court. Towards the end of the 18th century when British Guiana still belonged to the Dutch, there were two sets of taxes and two separate treasuries or chests. These taxes were: the Capitation Tax, which, together with the import, produce, and tonnage dues, went into the Dutch West India Company's (later the King's) Chest; and the Ongeld, an additional head tax which belonged to the Colony Chest. The abolition of slavery in 1834 rendered it necessary to alter the system of taxation to suit the new social conditions obtaining, and the King's taxes and the Colonial taxes were abolished, and the ways and means necessary for carrying on the Government were raised by increasing the import duties. The two Chests were merged into one—the revenue of the King's Chest was surrendered to the Combined Court as a part of the ways and means in return for, and during the term of, a Civil List. In 1842, by an Order of Her Majesty in Council, it was declared that during continuation of the Civil List the King's Chest should continue to be abolished. The Civil List has continued to be renewed from time to time as necessary.

During 1891 an Act of Parliament was passed, which came into force in 1892, effecting a considerable change in the Constitution. By this Act the administrative functions of the Court of Policy were transferred to an Executive Council, and the duties of the former became purely legislative. The Court of Policy then consisted of the Governor, seven official members and eight elected members, and together with six financial representatives formed the Combined Court.

A Parliamentary Commission was appointed in October, 1926, " to consider and report on the economic condition of the Colony, the causes which have hitherto retarded and the

Digitized by Google

measures which could be taken to promote development, and any facts which they may consider to have a bearing on the above matters ", and in their report* they recommended that it was essential, on the ground both of immediate financial exigencies and of future development, that the existing Constitution should be altered so as to confer power upon the Governor to carry into effect measures which he and the Secretary of State for the Colonies consider essential for the well-being of the Colony. On their recommendation a local commission was appointed to advise on the precise nature of the constitutional modification required to secure such control, and generally upon any other improvements such as those suggested by the Commission which might be effected in the Constitution. As a result of these reports, an Act to make provision for the government of the Colony of British Guiana was passed by Parliament in 1928, and by Proclamation issued by the Governor in Executive Council and published in the Official Gazette as provided by Article 3 of the British Guiana (Constitution) Order in Council, 1928, the Court of Policy and Combined Court then subsisting were determined on 18th July, 1928, and a Legislative Council substituted therefor.

The Legislative Council as now constituted consists of the Governor, two *ex officio* members, eight nominated official members, five nominated unofficial members, and fourteen elected members.

In accordance with the provisions of the British Guiana (Constitution) Order in Council, 1928, the first Legislative Council was dissolved two years after its constitution, and a general election was held in September, 1930. The Council is dissolved at the expiration of every five years, if it has not been dissolved earlier, and a general election must be held within two months of the date of dissolution. The last election held was in 1935.

The Executive Council consists of the Governor, the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney-General, *ex officio,* not more than four official members, and not more than five unofficial members. All the latter nine members must be members of the Legislative Council and are appointed by the Governor to the Executive Council, under the instructions of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Local Government.

There are two Municipalities—one in respect of the city of Georgetown, in the county of Demerara, and one in respect of the town of New Amsterdam, in the county of Berbice.

* Cmd. 2841.

Digitized by Google

The city of Georgetown is administered by a Mayor and Town Council, and for that purpose is divided into nine wards, for each of which one councillor is elected. In addition to these elected councillors, three councillors are nominated by the Governor in Council. The revenue of the Council is derived from a tax on the appraised valuation of lands and houses within the municipal boundaries, and from market fees, water-rates, etc. A Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the hygiene of the city, a City Engineer for the roads, drainage works, etc. The area of the city is 1,612 acres. The revenue received from all sources during 1936 was $706,200.72 or £147,125 3s. 0d., and the expenditure $684,882.43 or £142,683 16s. 9½d.

The town of New Amsterdam is administered by a Mayor and Town Council. Six councillors are elected by the ratepayers and three nominated by Government. The revenue is raised from sources similar to those of the city of Georgetown. The area of the town is 669 acres. The revenue received from all sources during 1936 was $98,610.20 or £20,543 15s. 10d., and the expenditure $96,702.24 or £20,146 6s. 0d.

The Colony's rural population is resident in villages scattered along the coastlands and for some distance up the principal rivers. Here, in the first instance, the freed negro slaves settled after emancipation. Forming themselves into companies, they bought with their savings accumulated during slavery and the apprenticeship period the estates of those of their former masters who were anxious to quit the Colony, or they purchased the front lands of plantations, the proprietors of which wished to establish a resident population.

These rural communities have since then been greatly enlarged by the settlement of ex-indentured East Indians and their descendants and they now range in importance from the hamlet with a population of 100 to the large village with 5,000 to 6,000 inhabitants. Several of these areas, it must be noted, while called villages are really potential towns from the point of view of both area and population.

The history of these village communities is a record, firstly of the unsuccessful efforts of the villagers, left to their own devices, to manage their affairs and later, of the endeavours of the Government to provide an efficient system of village organization. Numerous legislative enactments aiming at providing and perfecting the machinery needed for efficient village administration have from time to time been passed.

The affairs of these rural districts, i.e., communities declared to be either "Village" or "Country" districts under the Local Government Odinance, are under the immediate direction of local authorities. In the case of village districts the village council consists of elected and appointed councillors and in the case of country districts membership is wholly appointed,

Digitized by Google

appointment in both instances being made by the central authority—the Local Government Board. Both these local authorities have powers of voting funds and levying rates, of appointing officers, and constructing village works, etc. There are 25 village districts and 68 country districts.

The revenue received from all sources in respect of village districts was $85,735.30 or £17,861 10s. 5d., and the amount expended on all works was $81,812.78 or £17,044 6s. 7d.

The revenue received from all sources in respect of country districts was $71,668.29 or £14,930 17s. 10½d., and the amount expended on all works was $71,778.94 or £14,953 18s. 11d.

District Administration.

On 1st January, 1932, a system of District Administration was introduced. This system has decentralized the work of three Departments, viz., Local Government Board, Commissary's Department and the Immigration Department. District Commissioners and staffs appointed for the administrative areas of Berbice, East Coast Demerara, Georgetown and East Bank Demerara, West Demerara, Essequibo, North-West and Rupununi Districts. In addition to the work of the Departments mentioned above, all District Commissioners deputize for the Commissioner of Lands and Mines with regard to the control of Crown forests and Mines and the navigation of rivers, while the District Commissioners, Berbice, and North-West District deputize for the Comptroller of Customs in respect of the ports of New Amsterdam and Springlands, Berbice, and Morawhanna, North-West District. The District Commissioner, North-West District, performs magisterial duties and the District Commissioner, Rupununi, performs police and magisterial duties. This system of administration is working satisfactorily.

III.—POPULATION.

Births.—The birth and death rates noted below have been calculated on the Registrar-General's estimate of population of the Colony at 31st December, 1936, which was 332,898 or 166,295 males and 166,603 females, enumerated as follows:—

Races.	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Persons.*
Europeans (other than Portuguese)	1,206	982	2,188
Europeans (Portuguese) ...	3,953	4,620	8,573
East Indians	74,137	66,631	140,768
Chinese	1,904	1,379	3,283
Aborigines	4,283	4,491	8,774
Blacks	61,897	67,751	129,648
Mixed	18,741	20,603	39,344
Other races and races not stated	174	146	320
Totals	166,295	166,603	332,898

Digitized by Google

During the year 11,736 births, i.e., 6,028 boys and 5,708 girls, were registered. In 1935 the number was 11,262 (5,657 boys and 5,605 girls). The birth-rate was 35·3 per 1,000 of the population; that for 1935 was 34·3 and for 1934 28·8. The numbers and birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of each of the several races representing the community were as follows:—

Races.	*Births.*	*Birth-rate per thousand.*	
Europeans (other than Portuguese)	25	11·4	17·9
Europeans (Portuguese)	168	19·6	
East Indians	6,088	43·2	
Chinese	63	19·2	
Aborigines	364	41·5	
Blacks	3,697	28·5	
Mixed Races	1,328	33·8	
Other races and races not stated	3	—	

Of the births registered 6,101 or 51·9 per cent. of the whole were legitimate, and 5,635 or 49·1 per cent. illegitimate.

Deaths.—The deaths registered were 6,800 (3,583 males and 3,217 females). In the previous year the figures were 6,762 (3,563 males and 3,199 females). The death-rate was 20.4 per cent. of the population, the lowest ever recorded. In 1935 it was 20.6, and in 1934 24.7 per cent. The death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of the various races was as follows:—

Races.		
Europeans (other than Portuguese)	11·4	17·6
Europeans (Portuguese)	19·1	
East Indians	23·3	
Chinese	9·1	
Aborigines	35·7	
Blacks	19·1	
Mixed Races	13·1	

Marriages.—One thousand seven hundred and six marriages were registered. In 1935 there were 1,670. The marriage rate per 1,000 was 10·2. In 1934 it was also 10·2.

Infant Mortality.—The number of children who died under one year of age was 1,414, or 120 per 1,000 births, as compared with 1,372, or 122 per 1,000, in 1935. The following table shows the proportion of deaths of the children under one year of age of each race to every 1,000 births of each such race for the past ten years in the whole Colony:—

Year.	*Whole Colony.*	*European.*	*Portuguese.*	*East Indian.*	*Chinese.*	*Aborigines.*	*Black.*	*Mixed.*
1927	158	—	104	153	26	—	163	139
1928	185	—	154	209	63	—	177	137
1929	146	—	116	136	62	—	169	123
1930	146	100	44	155	70	—	150	114
1931	139	—	95	140	66	—	146	129
1932	139	33	134	142	88	—	131	145
1933	154	37	127	172	68	118	153	110
1934	168	—	158	174	66	164	183	123
1935	122	—	108	125	81	128	128	95
1936	120	40	83	119	63	195	125	102

Digitized by Google

IV.—HEALTH.

The new Public Health Ordinance which became law in November, 1934, is gradually being put into force, and the regulations under the Ordinance are being drafted. The Central Board of Health established under the Ordinance held regular monthly meetings throughout the year under review, considerable progress being made.

The Government Public Health Department, serving as the Executive of this Board, supervise the sanitary activities of Local Sanitary Authorities in village, country and rural areas. Twenty-eight Government Sanitary Inspectors are stationed in as many districts, one carrying out the duties of Sanitary Inspector for the Port of Georgetown and one serving in the laboratory of the Department for the examination of films, stools, etc., and for the bacteriological analysis of water samples.

Lectures for the local certificate in Hygiene and Sanitation and for the examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute are held annually. A course of lectures in hygiene is also given to the pupil teachers of the Teachers' Training Centre of the Education Department.

A series of health tours in village and rural centres was conducted during the year, cinematographic and lantern lectures and demonstrations of models, appliances and practical aspects of sanitation being delivered. Distribution of the Department's " Health Series " of booklets and pamphlets was also made.

The British Guiana Society for the Prevention and Treatment of Tuberculosis continued its activities throughout the year. These consist in the work of the Health Visitors, who help to bring patients to the dispensaries and to keep in touch with these patients in their homes by regular visits; dispensary work which is carried out by honorary visiting physicians; and the treatment and care of early and convalescent cases at the tuberculosis hospital on the west bank of the Demerara River.

A grant has been made from the Colonial Development Fund for the erection of a much-needed modern tuberculosis hospital, providing for 90 beds, to replace the present inadequate one. The site selected is adjacent to and includes that of the present hospital. Work in the preparation of the ground was started at the end of the year and is now in progress.

An outbreak of enteric fever occurred in Georgetown during October, and continued during November and early December. By the end of the year conditions had returned to normal. During the outbreak the environs of the city also showed an increased incidence. Up to 16th October the number of cases notified in the city for the year was 15. Thereafter the

Digitized by Google

notifications rose to 26 on 31st October, to 113 on 30th November, and to 180 on 31st December. There were 40 deaths for the year. The cause of the outbreak has not been traced. Most of the cases were removed to hospital. The general public as well as contacts were given free T.A.B. inoculation at various Municipal and Government centres, whilst a Government Medical Officer performed inoculations in the schools. The Municipal water supply as well as the stored water supply of several institutions was chlorinated. All necessary preventive measures were taken, and instructions to the public were issued in the Press by the Government and Municipal Medical Officers of Health. The notifications for the whole Colony during the year were 513 and the deaths 115.

The number of cases of tuberculosis notified in 1936 was 313, as compared with 345 in 1935, the number of deaths being 261 and 274, respectively.

No quarantinable diseases (plague, cholera, smallpox, yellow fever or typhus fever) occurred during the year.

The usual Port activities were maintained.

No special outbreak of any other epidemic disease was reported during the year.

Infant Welfare and Ante-Natal Supervision.

Ante-natal and infant welfare work, under the auspices of the Infant Welfare and Maternity League, has been well maintained, both in the villages and on the sugar estates.

The sum of $3,800 has been subscribed locally towards the King George V Silver Jubilee Fund, and will be devoted to the provision of permanent equipment for infant welfare and maternity clinics. These clinics are held in offices of local authorities, school-rooms, etc. A folding couch-cabinet with screen fittings has been devised for use in the clinics, and most of these will receive a cabinet as a free gift from the Jubilee Fund.

Anti-Mosquito Measures.

Special measures continue to be undertaken with a view to the reduction of mosquito incidence and malaria more especially in relation to the city of Georgetown. The bonification of large areas of vacant land has been effected and these are quickly taken over by recreational clubs.

Estates' authorities are being encouraged to undertake anti-malarial measures of a permanent nature with a view to the reduction of the high annually recurrent cost of hospital and out-patient treatment of malarial fever. The importance of this work is also being stressed with Local Sanitary Authorities in villages and country areas.

Digitized by Google

V.—HOUSING.

With the passing into law of the new Public Health Ordinance the measures directed towards improving housing conditions in village and country areas is being more fully enforced. More particular attention is being paid to " town planning " and the proper laying-out of the land and its preparation for building purposes before the erection of the dwelling-house is undertaken.

Enforcement of the building by-laws made under the old Ordinance is being maintained until regulations under the new Ordinance have been drafted. In remoter areas along the coastland and isolated portions on the outskirts of village and country districts the simplest form of dwelling-house is prevalent, consisting of " wattle and daub " troolie or trash roofed buildings of one- or two-roomed capacity. These dwellings are no longer permitted to be built flush with the ground as formerly, but otherwise, owing to the prevailing economic depression, little more is demanded.

In the villages throughout the coastlands a distinct improvement in the type of dwellings is noticeable; the average villager instead of being content with living in thatched cottages built of flimsy material now aims at shingle and board residence and, with the help and guidance of the Government Public Health Department, a proper means of disposal of excreta is provided and the compounds or " lots " occupied by these cottages are kept in a fair state of cleanliness.

Sugar estates authorities continued the policy of the erection of one-family or two-family cottages. These cottages, it is hoped, will gradually replace the large ten-roomed ranges which were built flush with the ground and without adequate light and ventilation. Further progress has also been made in the provision of five-roomed or six-roomed trough closets with septic tank systems of disposal, these replacing the less satisfactory over-trench latrines. In a few instances where less expensive accommodation has been necessitated the model multiple-roomed dry-pit system as recommended by the Government Public Health Department has been installed.

In Georgetown the discomfort from mosquito infestation is comparatively small. Mosquito-proofed dwellings are practically non-existent as they are unnecessary. All the dwelling-houses are raised on pillars to a distance varying from 4 to 12 feet above the ground, unless the ground storey is properly floored.

In view of the prevailing congestion which exists in several areas of the city of Georgetown and the steadily increasing population, a comprehensive town planning scheme is being

Digitized by Google

prepared with a view to ascertaining the suitable building areas within the city and possible sites on land adjacent thereto.

The activities of building societies are at present chiefly restricted to existing buildings.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Mining.

The mineral production of British Guiana is at present confined to gold, diamonds, and bauxite.

The records of gold production date back to 1884 and the aggregate amount produced from then to the end of 1936 was 2,836,289 ounces valued at £10,537,591. With the exception of an aggregate of about 288,655 ounces won by organized enterprise by underground mining, dredging, and hydraulicing, the whole of this was obtained by native miners using simple hand methods. There are no mines in existence at present and no hydraulicing is being carried on, but a small amount of dredging is being done by an English company. The highest production in any one year was 138,528 ounces in 1893 valued at £505,049, and the lowest 6,083 ounces valued at £22,633 in 1928. The output of gold was adversely affected after 1915 by the attraction of local miners to the diamond industry; but subsequently the fall in the world's market price of diamonds and the increase in the price of gold revived interest in the latter, and the output for 1936 rose to 35,113 ounces valued at £189,027, an increase of 1,902 ounces on the previous year.

Considerable areas of gold-bearing alluvial land have been taken up recently by capital interests, and it is expected that active dredging and dragline operations will be commenced in the near future. A geological survey financed by the Colonial Development Fund is in progress which, it is anticipated from results already obtained, will lead to further development.

Diamonds were first discovered in 1890 but, though of first-rate quality, failed to obtain a good market until 1916, from which year production rose steadily to a peak output in 1923 of 214,474 carats valued at £1,033,014. Owing to the gradual decline in prices and to increased activity in the gold industry, the product has steadily fallen to 40,017 carats in 1936, valued at £95,707, an average of £2 7s. 10d. a carat as compared with £5 0s. 10d. a carat in 1922. The aggregate production from 1901 to the end of 1936 was 2,068,206 carats valued at £7,899,441. Practically the whole output has been won from alluvial workings by local miners using simple hand methods; but of recent years concentrating pans, both hand- and power-driven, manufactured by a local firm of engineers, have been increasingly used with considerable success.

Digitized by Google

If attractive finds are made, the diamond and gold industries provide congenial employment for an average of from 3,000 to 5,000 men. The actual miners are mostly of the negro race, as the open air life, freedom from restraint, and element of chance appeal to them, and they are better fitted physically to stand conditions in the interior. They depend almost entirely for supplies on shops established by traders in the various districts, and on the whole, foodstuffs, such as rice, flour, peas, salt-beef, salt-pork, salt-fish, etc., which form their staple diet, are sold at reasonable prices and fair values are paid for the gold and diamonds. Drink and other luxuries are proportionately higher in cost.

Valuable and extensive deposits of bauxite of high-grade exist in easily accessible localities. Since 1914, mining operations on a large scale have been carried on in the Demerara river where a plant and buildings costing approximately £1,000,000 have been erected by the Demerara Bauxite Company, Limited, a subsidiary of the Aluminium Company of Canada. The average number of persons employed by the Company throughout the year 1936 was 591, of whom 98 per cent. were local employees. A well-equipped hospital and dispensary—open to local residents as well as employees—is maintained, and a resident medical officer is employed together with adequate nursing staff. The labourers are housed under model conditions in mosquito-proofed dwellings, and sanitary services of a high order are provided by the Company. Additional bauxite deposits in the same locality have been leased to the British and Colonial Bauxite Company of London—a Company formed and controlled by the British Aluminium Company and other British and Colonial manufacturing concerns of high standing—but mining operations have not yet commenced. Deposits have been located in several other localities but have not yet been taken up. The aggregate output to the end of 1936 was 1,997,270 tons, the output for that year being 209,321 tons. All the bauxite is exported after being washed and kiln-dried as there is no local conversion of the ore.

Agriculture.

Sugar.—The sugar crop for the Colony was 195,944 tons, a marked increase on the previous record output of 178,041 tons in 1935. Of the 69,235 acres under cane, 63,385 were reaped during the year, 61,421 on the sugar estates and the remainder in cane-farming areas. The general yield was 3·09 tons of sugar per acre, that on estates 3·12 tons per acre. This record yield per acre is now nearly 100 per cent. greater than it was in the ten-year period prior to 1927.

Digitized by Google

The weather was satisfactory for the 1936 crop, but the uneven distribution of the rains is expected to have a deleterious effect on the spring grinding of 1937 which will be short, especially in those areas where irrigation facilities are not adequate.

Statistics, kindly supplied by the sugar estates, show that the varieties Diamond 10 and P.O.J. 2878 are rapidly replacing D. 625. While the acreage under both Diamond 10 and P.O.J. 2878 show marked increments, the latter has of late been extended at a proportionately more rapid rate than the former.

The exports of sugar and its by-products during 1936 are as follows:—sugar, 176,505 tons valued at $6,853,058; rum, 1,444,877 proof gallons valued at $636,351; molasses, 8,168,250 gallons valued at $419,712; molascuit, 382 tons valued at $6,426.

Rice.—The area occupied by rice during 1936 was 51,041 acres but, including the spring crop, the area actually reaped was 62,856 acres. The yield was returned at 60,580 tons padi which is equivalent to 36,348 tons rice. The amount of rice exported was 20,559 tons with a value of $810,318, as against 10,565 tons with a value of $473,086 for 1935, the lowest year on record since 1927.

The 1936 season was not a favourable one for rice, excessive rainfall during the planting period followed by a prolonged spell of dry weather caused a reduction in the acreage finally reaped, while in some districts almost the entire autumn rice crop was lost. This was particularly severe on the West Coast, Berbice, and the Upper East Coast, Demerara, where a large acreage was destroyed. The steady improvement in the quality of padi grown has been maintained, and it was interesting to note that the pure line seed padi No. 79 stood up well under the adverse weather conditions.

There was a considerable improvement in the export of rice during 1936 as compared with 1935, and there does not appear to have been very much old crop rice carried forward at the end of the year. Drought conditions which caused widespread losses in the creek districts reduced the estimated yield for the autumn crop by some 5,000 tons and it seems possible that the exports for 1937 may show a decline.

The quality of the lower grades of rice milled from the autumn crop was good. It is to be hoped that with the aid of the work of the Department of Agriculture in distributing pure line seed and with greater discrimination on the part of the millers between good and bad padi, and with care on their part to see that the best seed is planted, this improvement will be maintained.

Digitized by Google

Coconuts.—The area under coconuts in 1936 was 21,379 acres. The exports for 1936 were as follows:—Coconuts, 1,914,169 valued at $24,755; copra 563 tons valued at $37,051; coconut oil, 9,818 gallons valued at $4,191.

Coffee.—The area under coffee in 1936 was 3,512 acres. The exports were 167 tons of cured coffee valued at $15,626. The market possibilities of this crop have gone from bad to worse, and as a result Messrs. Garnett & Co., who owned the largest coffee interests in the North West District, have closed their factory there and to a large extent abandoned their plantations. The main type produced, Liberian coffee, finds a market chiefly in the Northern European countries. The crop is the most important on the pegasse lands of the Colony.

Fruit.—The area under the other citrus and fruit was 657 acres, exclusive of limes. The citrus industry is not a large one and areas show some vacillation as cultivations are sometimes abandoned while new areas may be taken in. There has, however, been a fairly substantial increase in the area planted to budded grapefruit and oranges. The area under limes was 698 acres. The exports of concentrated lime juice for the year were 9,825 gallons valued at $2,422, as against 3,112 gallons with a value of $689 for 1935, and 732 gallons of essential oil of limes valued at $28,569, as compared with 597 gallons valued $25,092 in 1935.

The cultivation of all crops in the Colony is carried out by East Indian and West Indian population. On the sugar estates the supervision of the work is conducted mostly by European staffs. There is no indentured immigration, and labourers are free to come and go as they choose.

The annual exports and values of the principal agricultural commodities during the last five years are as follows:—

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Sugar—					
Tons ...	137,078	127,083	129,913	174,156	176,505
£	1,342,190	1,196,906	1,160,094	1,443,008	1,427,720
Molasses—					
Gal. ...	7,554,520	8,137,233	5,384,834	5,949,393	8,168,250
£	80,790	87,855	57,990	64,152	87,440
Rum—					
Pf. gal. ...	645,511	883,019	1,120,090	1,073,406	1,444,877
£	59,742	79,846	101,339	88,054	132,573
Rice—					
Tons ...	28,541	29,120	14,700	10,565	20,559
£	247,473	221,347	121,477	98,559	168,816
Copra					
Tons ...	757	921	700	1,226	563
£	10,195	8,551	4,893	11,486	7,719

Digitized by Google

Livestock.

There is no material change to report in the methods of animal husbandry, and no such change can take place until cattle-owners realize the benefits to be obtained from renting grazing land for their animals. The majority of cattle-owners leave their young stock and dry cows to fend for themselves on the heavily over-stocked grazing areas, and the most they are prepared to do is to feed cows during their lactation period with cut grass and sometimes concentrates. For a number of years now the intensive system of management practised on the Stock Farm has been advocated but is viewed with disfavour by cattle-owners, doubtless due to the low prices paid for milk. As it is useless to attempt improvements of pasturage without an assured drainage, the only practical improvement of conditions of coast cattle lies in the direction of limiting the number stocked in intensively cultivated areas. It is impossible to ignore the fact that the majority of cattle-owners and land-owners know what can be done, but no one is willing to incur any expense. Legislation with enforcement of regulations is the only method by which pasturage and livestock can be improved on a large scale. A Livestock Trade Committee with the Director of Agriculture as Chairman was appointed " to consider and advise on steps to be taken whereby the livestock trade of this country, both for internal and external consumption, can be stimulated ". The report of this Committee has been published as Sessional Paper No. 12/1936.

The census of livestock in the Colony for 1936 was as follows:—horned cattle 131,637 (including 54,671 on the Hinterland savannahs); horses 2,817; mules 1,225; donkeys 5,962; buffaloes 95; sheep 26,310; goats 11,321; swine 22,480.

Forestry.

It was not possible to carry out any reconnaisance surveys during the year, but the Conservator was deputed to spend three months in England studying the possibilities of the export trade in Colony timbers, and his report was published as Sessional Paper No. 20 of 1936. The recommendation that legislation be introduced to have compulsory inspection and branding of timber for export was adopted and an Ordinance was under draft at the close of the year. Grants were taken up and working commenced in the forests in the Demerara River, which was cruised in 1935.

There were no further grants from Unemployment Relief Funds to the Revolving Fund to continue the work of sawing and seasoning local lumber started in 1933. Work continued and during the year 58,793 feet B.M. of Crabwood, 32,271 feet

Digitized by Google

B.M. of Determa, and 13,972 feet B.M. of Hububalli were sawn and stacked for seasoning. The total production of sawn material of all species, 11 in number, was 127,500 feet B.M. whilst 193,155 feet B.M. were sold at an average price of 5.85 cents per foot.

The formation and tending of experimental plantations was continued, teak being the principal species, whilst the establishment of a technique for regenerating Greenheart areas made very good progress.

During the year an increased demand from abroad was apparent for Colony timbers, particularly Greenheart, exports rising from 195,824 cubic feet in 1935 to 282,815 cubic feet in 1936. Lumber exports also rose from 373,432 feet B.M. to 526,831 feet B.M., and this tendency to increase continues, the United States of America in particular showing signs of becoming a considerable market for Greenheart both sawn and as piling.

During the year, a total of 223,710 cubic feet of Greenheart was inspected, branded and certified by officers of the Forest Department and Department of Lands and Mines.

The total amount of timber produced from licensed Crown Lands during the year was 763,297 cubic feet of which 78·68 per cent. was Greenheart.

Fisheries.

There are three two-masted schooners engaged in fishing. The local demand for fish is amply met and should it increase, additional schooners would be forthcoming. There seems little prospect, however, of development to any appreciable extent. During the year, 88,897 snapper, valued at $29,336 (£6,111 13s. 4d.), and 2,852 grouper, valued at $2,167 (£451 9s. 2d.), were caught.

A fair supply of sea-fish is generally kept in cold storage at an ice-manufacturing establishment in Georgetown. Salt cod, herrings and mackerel are imported in quantity.

Manufactures.

The principal industry of the Colony is cane-sugar with its by-products rum, molasses and molascuit; but in addition there are several local manufactures worthy of mention, viz., matches, cigarettes, boots and shoes, common soap, bay rum and similar toilet preparations, edible oil, picked beef and pork, hams and lard and lard substitutes. There is also a growing industry in respect of bottled rum for the United States of America and Canadian markets and also for the West Indian islands. Matches produced find a ready sale locally, and an export trade to the West Indies is being developed. Oil which is manufactured from coconuts and registered trade-marked as " Fryol " compares

Digitized by Google

favourably with imported cooking oils. In 1932, 144,350 gallons of edible oils were imported, in 1933 140,701 gallons, in 1934 39,296 gallons, in 1935 31,791 gallons, and in 1936 18,696 gallons. A high protection was accorded the local manufacture in 1933.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total value of the trade of British Guiana (including bullion and coin) during each of the past three years is shown hereunder:—

	1934.	*1935.*	*1936.*
	£	£	£
Imports	1,750,006	1,833,925	1,968,373
Exports (including re-exports)	1,894,131	2,271,816	2,492,943
Total	£3,644,137	£4,105,741	£4,461,316

The value of goods in transit to other countries transhipped direct in Colony ports was £38,907, as compared with £52,065 in 1935 and £67,925 in 1934. Domestic produce to the value of £2,438,278 was exported during 1936, £2,217,224 during 1935, and £1,850,430 during 1934.

Exports of sugar in 1936 totalled 176,505 tons and exceeded the total quantity exported in 1935, which was until then the largest quantity exported in any year, by 2,349 tons. The value of the 1935 exports was, however, slightly higher, viz., £1,443,008 as compared with £1,427,720 in 1936.

The 1936 exports of rum (1,444,877 proof gallons) were the largest since 1921. More molasses was exported in 1936 than in any earlier year, shipments totalling 8,168,250 gallons.

Rice exports, which had fallen to very low levels in 1934 and 1935 owing to adverse weather conditions, recovered to a considerable extent in 1936 but were still much below the quantities exported in 1932 and 1933. The figures for each year from 1932 to 1936 are, respectively, 28,541, 29,120, 14,700, 10,565 and 20,559 tons.

Exports of coffee which had declined from over 1,000,000 lb. in 1933 to 471,506 lb. in 1935, fell further to 373,753 lb. in 1936.

More timber was exported in 1936 than in any year since 1929, and the exports of lumber exceeded the total shipments of any earlier year. The export figures of these commodities in 1936 were 281,030 cubic feet and 522,608 super. feet, respectively.

The 1936 exports of balata (217,081 lb.) were the smallest in any year since 1894-95 when the exports totalled 209,095 lb.

Digitized by Google

The total quantity of gold exported in 1936 was 35,857 ounces, made up of 34,920 ounces of newly-won ore and 937 ounces obtained from melted jewellery. It was the largest quantity shipped in any year since 1916 when 36,245 ounces were exported.

There was a further decline in the exports of diamonds, the quantity shipped in 1936, viz., 42,479 carats, being less by 708 carats than that which was exported in the preceding year.

Exports of bauxite in 1936 totalled 170,153 tons and were only exceeded by the shipments of 1925, 1926 and 1929 when quantities reached 174,999 tons, 183,859 tons and 182,692 tons, respectively. It is expected that the exports of this ore during the year 1937 will greatly exceed the 1926 record.

Exports to the United Kingdom in 1936 were valued at £1,008,372 as compared with £902,970 in 1935. These figures represent in each instance 41 per cent. of the value of the total exports for the year. The corresponding percentage figures for Canada were 40 per cent. in 1936 and 42 per cent. in 1935, the values of exports to Canada being £967,329 and £939,702, respectively.

The principal products purchased by the United Kingdom were:—

			Value. £
Sugar	tons	71,649	601,715
Gold	ozs.	35,509	191,064
Rum	pf. gallons	1,073,181	106,002
Molasses	gallons	3,471,328	36,159
Diamonds	carats	9,863	22,969
Bauxite...	tons	10,540	14,384

The principal exports to the Dominion of Canada were:—

			Value. £
Sugar	tons	104,844	825,842
Bauxite...	tons	68,257	78,273
Molasses	gallons	4,405,806	46,861

The British West Indies took 14,375 tons of rice valued at £119,758, which represented 70 per cent. of the total export of that commodity.

The principal products that found a market with the United States of America were:—

			Value. £
Bauxite...	tons	88,631	118,139
Timber...	cub. feet	107,182	9,872

Exports of copra in 1936 totalled 563 tons, of which 343 tons were shipped to the United Kingdom and 220 tons to the British West Indies. The quantities shipped to these destinations in 1935 were 1,038 tons and 188 tons, respectively.

Digitized by Google

The largest purchasers of our coffee in 1936 were the British West Indies (167,655 lb. or 46 per cent.) which Canada followed next with 107,491 lb. or 29 per cent. The remaining 25 per cent. was exported to foreign countries, the principal purchasers being Holland (46,400 lb), Norway (36,200 lb.) and Sweden (4,000 lb.).

In 1935 40 per cent. of the total quantity exported was shipped to foreign countries, Norway taking 84,076 lb., Holland 61,700 lb., the United States of America 33,600 lb. and Sweden 8,000 lb.

Thirty-nine per cent. of the timber exported in 1936 was marketed in the United Kingdom as compared with 43 per cent. in 1935, but the actual quantity shipped was greater, the figures being 108,235 cubic feet and 84,584 cubic feet, respectively. Exports to the United States increased from 44,585 cubic feet in 1935 to 107,182 cubic feet in 1936.

Sixty-six per cent. of the diamonds exported went to Belgium, 23 per cent. to the United Kingdom, and 11 per cent. to Holland. In 1935 the ratio of the exports to these countries in the order named was 44:29:27.

Fifty-two per cent. (88,631 tons) of the bauxite exported in 1936 was sent to the United States, while shipments made direct to Canada totalled 68,257 tons (40 per cent.). The Mother Country was the destination of 10,540 tons or 6 per cent. and Holland 2,725 tons (2 per cent.).

A comparison of values per unit of quantity of the Colony's exports for the period 1934-1936 is as follows: the figures noted are f.o.b. and are as declared by the exporters on export specifications:—

Article.	*Unit of Quantity.*	*1934.* £ s. d.	*1935.* £ s. d.	*1936.* £ s. d.
Raw Gold	oz.	4 17 8½	5 5 9	5 8 5½
Diamonds	carats	2 5 4	2 7 10½	2 7 10
Bauxite	ton	1 6 2½	1 4 9½	1 5 2½
Sugar	ton	8 18 7	8 5 8½	8 1 9
Rum	pf. gal.	1 9½	1 7½	1 10
Molasses	gallon	2½	2½	2½
Rice...	ton	8 5 3½	9 6 5½	8 4 2½
Coffee, raw... ...	lb.	3½	2½	2
Coconuts	1,000	2 15 2½	2 11 7	2 13 10½
Copra	ton	6 19 9½	9 7 4½	13 14 2½
Balata	lb.	1 2	11½	11
Lumber	sup. ft.	3½	3½	3½
Timber	cub. ft.	2 3½	2 0	2 0

Eighty-one per cent. of the total import trade, i.e., £1,594,531 was with Empire countries, £1,088,405 or 55 per cent. being with the United Kingdom (as usual the Colony's largest supplier) and £273,761 or 14 per cent. with Canada, while British India and the British West Indies each supplied 4 per cent. Of foreign countries, the value of imports from the United States was £171,659 or 9 per cent. of the total, followed by Japan whose share was 3 per cent.

Digitized by Google

The principal imports from the United Kingdom were:—

		Quantity.	*Value.*
			£
Cotton piece-goods	linear yards	9,177,104	143,665
Metals, and manufactures of	value	—	80,057
Flour, wheaten	bags	79,944	72,689
Sugar machinery	value	—	61,566
Manures	tons	8,790	61,199
Boots and shoes	doz. pairs	13,035	36,208

The main supplies from Canada were:—

		Quantity.	*Value.*
			£
Flour, wheaten	bags	93,584	95,549
Fresh vegetables	value	—	18,613
Smoked or dried fish ...	cwt.	18,740	18,463

The chief imports from the United States of America were:—

		Quantity.	*Value.*
			£
Mining machinery	value	—	17,018
Electrical apparatus... ...	value	—	16,493
Tobacco, manufactured ...	lb.	340,554	12,787

Some of the principal changes in the Colony's import trade which affected Empire countries are noted in respect of the following articles:—

Cheese.—The quantity of cheese imported from New Zealand, our chief supplier, was 167,383 lb., while 108,132 lb. came from Canada. The imports in 1935 from these countries were 154,686 lb. and 69,464 lb., respectively. When compared in relation to total imports, the Canadian supplies were proportionately higher in 1936, while proportionate losses were observed in regard to imports from New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

Flour.—Imports of flour from the United Kingdom which had increased from 17 bags in 1927 to 114,375 bags or 56 per cent of the total quantity imported in 1935, fell to 79,944 bags (43 per cent.) in 1936. Canada, the supplier of 99 per cent. of our flour a decade ago, regained last year the premier position she had lost to the United Kingdom since 1931 with 93,584 bags or 57 per cent. of the total.

Pickled Meats.—United Kingdom and Canadian supplies increased, respectively, from 621 barrels and 1,270 barrels in 1935 to 1,433 barrels and 1,949 barrels in 1936. These increases were gained at the expense of the United States and Argentine, imports from the former having declined from 2,903 barrels to 892 barrels and from the latter from 5,237 barrels to 2,745 barrels.

Digitized by Google

Condensed Milk.—Supplies from the United Kingdom increased from 110,749 lb. in 1934 to 286,842 lb. in 1935 and to 485,191 lb. in 1936, while imports from Canada in the same years totalled 263,374 lb., 149,099 lb. and 6,514 lb., respectively.

Potatoes.—The principal sources of supply were as usual Canada and Holland. Imports from the former country declined from 6,895,236 lb. in 1935 to 4,403,381 lb. in 1936, while those from Holland increased from 763,280 lb. to 2,332,725 lb.

Coal.—The United Kingdom maintained in 1936 her position as our chief supplier of coal with 3,554 tons, as compared with 3,623 tons in 1935. Germany entered the market with 152 tons, while imports from the United States of America declined from 313 tons in 1935 to 218 tons in 1936.

Greases and Fats.—Although the imports of greases and fats from the United Kingdom were, in relation to total imports, proportionately less in 1936 than in 1935, the quantity imported was greater. The figures for the two years were 66,290 lb. and 53,595 lb., respectively. Imports from Canada increased from 9,285 lb. in 1935 to 32,609 lb. in 1936.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The sugar industry is the largest and most important employer of labour, and wages, both in town and country, are much influenced by the prices obtainable abroad for sugar which is the most important of the Colony's exports—representing nearly 70 per cent. of their total value. The price of sugar is therefore a very important factor in determining the limits of wages both in the country districts of Berbice and Demerara, where sugar is produced, and in Georgetown, where it is shipped.

The total supply of labour in the Colony is, however, more than sufficient for the present requirements of the sugar industry, and full-time employment on sugar estates is therefore not available for the majority of labourers in Berbice and Demerara. Even those regularly employed by the sugar estates supplement their wages by keeping cattle, cultivating small rice and provision farms, and working on Government and village works. Many of the sugar estates assist their labourers in this direction by allowing them to grow rice and ground provisions, etc., on lands belonging to the sugar estates.

The labourers on sugar estates are usually housed free. Hospitals and medical attention are also usually provided by estates for the labourers. In 1936, improvements in housing, hospital facilities, and drinking-water supply, were made by some of the larger estates.

Digitized by Google

On the coastlands of Essequibo and in the islands of the Essequibo River there are no employers of labour on a large scale—all the sugar plantations formerly there having been abandoned. In these areas the people now depend primarily on the cultivation of small rice and ground provision farms; a small number are employed by Government and Local Authorities on public works.

In the Pomeroon and the North-Western Districts (the remaining portion of the coastlands), there are also no employers of labour on a large scale. The people in these areas also depend on the cultivation of small farms and on fishing in the rivers. Coffee is the chief crop cultivated in the Pomeroon and North-Western Districts.

In the interior the most important employer of labour is the Demerara Bauxite Company. A few logging companies operating on the Demerara and Essequibo Rivers and some gold-mining companies operating in the Potaro Distict are also employers of labour. A considerable amount of logging, woodcutting and diamond and gold mining is carried on by labourers operating on their own account.

The average wages per day of 8½ hours to artisans range from 4s. 2d. to 7s. 6d. per day. The wages of male labourers range from 2s. 6d. to 4s. 2d. per day, and of women and children over 14 years of age from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d. Persons in domestic service, such as cooks, housemaids, and butlers, receive monthly wages ranging from £1 to £2 10s. East Indian agricultural labourers are employed at wages varying from 6s. 8½d. to 7s. 4d. per average week of 4½ days.

The wages of railway labourers vary from 3s. to 4s. 2d. per day of eight hours according to the nature of the work performed. These rates apply to railway workers in Government employment and correspond closely to the average paid by commercial concerns for similar work.

The principal articles of diet of the labouring classes are rice and locally-grown vegetables. The average price per gallon of rice was 8d. Retail prices of other staple articles of diet were:—wheaten flour 1½d. to 2d. per lb., pickled beef 6d. per lb., pickled pork 7d. per lb., salted fish 6d. to 8d. per lb.

IX.—EDUCATION.

A State-aided system of elementary education was established by Ordinance No. 3 of 1876 (now Chapter 196). There are now 236 primary schools, which are all denominational except six which are controlled by the Education Department and one by a private firm. The central administration is vested in a

Digitized by Google

Director of Education and an advisory Education Committee, and the local control in governing bodies and school managers who are usually ministers of religion. In 1936 the primary schools had an enrolment of 51,077, and the grants-in-aid amounted to £73,052 8s.

A training centre for men and women teachers was established in Georgetown in 1928. Woodwork centres for boys have been established in the following localities: Georgetown (two), New Amsterdam, East Coast Demerara, and West Coast Demerara (one each), and domestic science centres for girls in Georgetown (one) and in New Amsterdam (one).

In 1932 a Government primary school was erected in Georgetown from a grant made by the Imperial Government. It is used as a demonstration and practising school in connection with the Teachers' Training Centre, and is having an important effect in raising the general standard of efficiency in the primary schools throughout the Colony.

Provision is made for the higher education of boys at a Government secondary school in Georgetown, in which the course of instruction is similar to that of a public school or grammar school in England. Two secondary schools for girls and one for boys, all conducted by religious denominations, receive grants-in-aid from the Government. There are also a number of private secondary schools which receive no grants. Twelve Government County scholarships, entitling the holders to free education for five years at the Government secondary school or at other approved secondary schools, are open to candidates from the primary schools. The Government also award annually one scholarship of the total value of £900 which is open to boys and girls and is tenable at a university or institution of university rank within the British Empire. There are 1,065 boys and 864 girls, a total of 1,929 pupils in secondary schools.

There is a trades centre for boys and youths in Georgetown. It is run on the lines of a junior technical school and provides a two years' course in woodwork and technical drawing. Apprentices and journeymen in the building and other trades attend evening classes at the centre, and men teachers from the primary schools have also attended courses to enable them to become instructors at the various centres in the Colony.

A trade centre for women and girls (the Carnegie Trade Centre) was opened in Georgetown in 1933 to provide practical training for women and girls in domestic subjects and local crafts. Funds for the purpose were provided by the Carnegie Corporation, United States of America, supplemented by a grant from the Imperial Government.

Digitized by Google

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

Roads, with an aggregate length of 272 miles and a fair motoring surface, extend along the coastlands from Skeldon on the Corentyne River to Charity on the Pomeroon River and also along the lower reaches of the principal rivers for short distances, but do not penetrate inland. Communications beyond these limits are, generally speaking, by water, but there are also roads and paths in the interior. These are as follows:—

In the North-West District, between Arakaka on Barima River and Towakaima on the Barima River, a distance of 29 miles, with a branch line to Five Stars, a distance of 17 miles; and from the Barima River opposite Morawhanna to Waniana Creek, a distance of 11 miles, eight of which are suitable for motor traffic. The latter road passes over the Mabaruma hills, on which are situated the Government offices for the administration of the district, a public hospital, etc.

The Bartica-Potaro road, 104 miles in length, constructed by means of a loan from the Colonial Development Fund for the purpose of opening up the interior of the Colony, is connected to the Potaro Landing-Konawaruk road, the Potaro River being spanned by a suspension bridge of 360 feet span.

Tumatumari is connected to this road at 91½ miles by a branch road four miles long.

A branch road from 75 miles on the Bartica-Potaro road to Issano Landing on the Mazaruni River which was under construction since August 1935, was completed to its terminus, a distance of 50 miles and opened to traffic in September, 1936.

In the Potaro District, between Tumatumari and St. Mary, Konawaruk, 14¾ miles, and Potaro Landing and Minnehaha, 19½ miles, with connecting trail from the six-mile post on the former road to the ten-mile post on the latter (known as the Tiger Creek Line) a distance of 10½ miles, and a trail from the 1½-mile post on the Potaro-North Fork road to Kangaruma on the right bank of the River Potaro, a distance of 5½ miles.

In the Essequebo District the road between Lower Camaria and Upper Camaria on the Cuyuni River, a distance of 3¾ miles, was put in order for traffic.

A Cattle trail is being maintained by the Government between Takama on the Berbice River and Annai on the Rupununi River, a distance of 182 miles, with a branch line to Arakwa, a place approximately opposite Wismar on the Demerara River.

Digitized by Google

Railways.

There are two lines of single-track railway in the Colony which were acquired by the Government from the late Demerara Railway Company, and are operated under the control of the Transport and Harbours Department. One of the lines runs from Georgetown along the east coast of Demerara for a distance of 60½ miles to Rosignol on the left bank of the Berbice River and diagonally opposite New Amsterdam. The other runs along the west coast of Demerara for a distance of 18½ miles, starting at Vreed-en-Hoop on the left bank of the Demerara River and ending at Parika, a point on the coast immediately opposite the island of Leguan in the estuary of the Essequebo River.

Government Steamer and other Inland Services.

The Transport and Harbours Department also operates steamers on the following routes:—

Ferries across the Demerara, Berbice and Essequebo rivers.

A steamer service from Georgetown to Morawhanna and Mabaruma on the Barima and Aruka rivers, North-West District.

Georgetown to Adventure on the Essequebo Coast.

Georgetown to Bartica at the junction of the Essequebo, Mazaruni and Cuyuni rivers.

Georgetown to Pickersgill and other stations on upper reaches of the Pomeroon river.

Parika to Adventure and Bartica.

New Amsterdam, on the right bank of the Berbice river, to Paradise, 110 miles up that river.

Launch services are also run as follows:—

Charity on the Pomeroon river, up and down the river, and also to Acquero on the Moruka river.

New Amsterdam to Akuruwa up the Canje Creek.

A lorry service operates on the Bartica-Potaro-Issano Road, branching from:—

(*a*) 75 miles to Issano, the terminal point on the Mazaruni river, connecting with a boat service operated by a contractor on the Mazaruni river between Issano and Apiqua;

(*b*) Garraway Stream (100 miles) to Minnehaha Gold Dredging Company (112 miles); and

(*c*) From Garraway Stream (100 miles) to Kangaruma (107 miles), the terminus en route to Kaieteur Waterfall. This lorry service connects at Bartica with the steamer and railway services to and from Georgetown.

Digitized by Google

Postal.

The postal services operate along the whole front of the Colony, up the principal rivers and at various places in the interior. The inland mail service is frequent and regular except to the Rupununi District for which mails are despatched as river transport opportunities offer. There is no subsidized mail service to the United Kingdom, but mails are transhipped by the steamers of the Harrison Direct Line, Bookers Line, the Royal Netherlands West Indian Mail, the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, the Canadian National Steamships, the Ocean Dominion Steamships, the Aluminium Line, the Furness Bermuda Line, the American Caribbean Steamship Line, and the Dutch Government steamers from Surinam. For Canada and the United States there is a regular subsidized fortnightly service by the Canadian National Steamships. A regular weekly air mail service is operated by Pan-American Airways to North and South America and intermediate countries.

The General Post Office is situated in Georgetown and transacts all classes of postal business. Throughout the country there are 40 branch post offices at which all classes of postal business are transacted; 37 postal agencies and 10 travelling post offices at most of which postal-orders are issued and paid. There is a house-to-house delivery of mails by cycle postmen from all post offices. A parcels C.O.D. system is in force in the Colony. Savings-bank business is transacted at 45 offices and agencies. There are about 48,000 depositors, having a credit of approximately $2,500,000. Telegraph money-order business is conducted at all offices where telegraph (including radio) and money-order facilities are provided.

Shipping.

Regular steamship communication is maintained with the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States of America, the West Indies, and the Dutch and French Guianas. The principal lines calling at British Guiana are Bookers Line, the Harrison Direct Line, the Royal Netherlands West Indian Mail, the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, the Canadian National Steamships, the Ocean Dominion Steamships, the Aluminium Line, the Furness-Bermuda Line, the American Caribbean Line, and the Dutch Government steamers from Surinam.

Telecommunications.

The post office telephone and telegraph services operate over the coastlands and a radio service serves various districts in the interior. The headquarters of the services is in Georgetown and contains the Central Exchange of 1,200 lines, the Central Telegraph Office communicating with 48 post offices and postal

Digitized by Google

agencies, and the Central Radio Station which maintains daily and regular schedules with six post office radio stations in the interior, three radio stations of the British Guiana-Brazil Boundary Commission, a radio station on the Demerara Light Beacon ten miles out at sea, and several vessels of the Department of Transport and Harbours. A suburb of Georgetown is served by a 100-line automatic exchange, the town of New Amsterdam is served by a 140-line exchange, there are 24 small country exchanges, and 42 private branch exchanges used by the commercial community and various Government departments throughout the coastlands. The Department of Transport and Harbours operates a station-to-station telephone service throughout its railway system; this service is maintained by the Postmaster-General.

The Colony's overseas radio services (including a direction-finding service), formerly maintained and operated by the Postmaster-General, now form part of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company's system. Pan-American Airways operate their own radio service under special licence.

The Colony possess two short-wave broadcasting stations operated by two companies under special licences.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Currency.

Accounts are kept in dollars and cents. British sterling is legal tender.

On 16th August, 1915, the Combined Court approved of the issue of Government currency notes of the face value of $ = 4s. 2d. and $2 = 8s. 4d. The first notes were issued in January, 1917, and on the 31st December, 1936, notes were in circulation to the face value of £119,792 or $575,000.

The Government Note Issue is fully backed by a Note Guarantee Fund, one-third of which is retained in coin. The investments held in respect of the fund must have a disposal value of not less than 110 per cent. of the note circulation not covered by actual coin.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) and the Royal Bank of Canada have establishments at Georgetown, with branches at New Amsterdam. The note circulation in the Colony of the former Bank was $448,120 or £93,366 13s. 4d., and of the latter $362,600 or £75,541 13s. 4d. at the 31st December, 1936. Both of these Banks carry on savings-bank business.

The first Government Savings Banks were established at Georgetown and at New Amsterdam in the year 1836, and the first Post Office Savings Banks in December, 1889.

Digitized by Google

The Treasury Savings Bank was amalgamated with the Post Office Savings Bank in December, 1910, and the work of transferring the accounts to the Post Office Savings Bank was completed on 30th June, 1911.

Savings bank business is conducted at 45 post offices throughout the Colony.

On the 31st December, 1936, there were 48,733 depositors with a total of £528,327 1*s.* 3*d.* at credit in the Banks. The investments on the same date were £530,562 15*s.* 7*d.*, from which an interest income of £17,476 4*s.* 4*d.* was received.

Co-operative Credit Banks.

The Credit Banks, which operate under the provisions of Ordinance No. 28 of 1933, continue under the chairmanship of the District Agricultural Officers, while the duties of Registrar and Auditor are performed by an officer attached to Headquarters staff. The Director of Agriculture is the Chairman of the Co-operative Credit Banks' Board and the Registrar is the Secretary.

On 31st December, 1936, there were twenty-seven banks on the register—fifteen in Demerara, eight in Berbice, and four in Essequebo. At the close of the year, the membership of the twenty-four functioning banks was 10,786; West Indians owned 47,600 shares and East Indians 28,032 out of a total issue of 81,375.

The lending capital of the banks is derived from two main sources—share capital subscribed by members and Government loans, the balance due to Government being $20,961.16 at 31st December, 1936.

Loans are made by the Credit Banks to members only and these are chiefly small agriculturists with valid security, raising crops of padi, sugar-cane, ground provisions, etc. Some business is also done with persons engaged in coconut-oil manufacture, pig-keeping, huckstering, diamond seeking, etc. Money is also lent for repair of buildings and for purchase of properties.

Under the " Rules for Co-operative Credit Banks " provision is made for the building up of reserve funds out of profits on the basis of 4 per cent. per annum of the paid-up capital of a bank at the end of its financial year. The total amount of investments carried out by the banks in this connection at 31st December, 1936, was $33,701.84 and, in addition, $792.30 was further allocated by the various banks for 1936 to be invested later. There is also a Secretaries' Guarantee Fund in connection with the banks which stood at $3,804.89 at the end of 1936.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Colony.

Digitized by Google

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Sea Defences.—The new sea wall constructed between Good Hope and Annandale on the East Coast collapsed at several points, due to continuation of excessive erosion experienced in 1935, and 7,000 feet of wall was abandoned during the year. As a result of this abandonment it was necessary to throw up a temporary line of defences consisting of earth dams, stop-offs, and a new greenheart sluice at Annandale. These works were carried out satisfactorily, and flooding by tidal waters was confined in such manner that the estates and villages suffered in no way.

On the West Coast, erosion took place at the western and eastern ends of the coast, namely, Tuschen and Windsor Forest to Best. Permanent works comprised new reinforced concrete wall and copings, new groynes and koker runs. General maintenance was carried out in all districts.

Buildings.—The following new buildings were erected:—

X-Ray Department, Public Hospital, Georgetown (addition).

Police station and court room and three quarters for non-commissioned officers and policemen, Providence, East Bank, Demerara.

Pavilion, Queen's College playground, Longden Park, Georgetown.

Criminal Investigation Department building, Brickdam, Georgetown.

Sergeants' mess, police station, Brickdam, Georgetown (addition).

Forage store, police station, Brickdam, Georgetown.

Quarters for married policemen, police station, Whim, Berbice.

Addition of 24 single rooms to central block, Mental Hospital, Berbice.

Quarters for wireless operator, Kurupukari, Essequebo River.

Quarters for Assistant Medical Officer and Warden, Leprosy Hospital, Mahaica, East Coast, Demerara.

Artesian Wells.—During the year seven wells were drilled and one well was reconditioned. All wells were completed with Everite screens and the steel casing lined with Everite pipe. The production from all wells completed is satisfactory and the water from each well has been submitted for analysis and has been verified to be a good quality potable artesian water.

Digitized by Google

The wells completed are in the following districts:—

West Coast Berbice ...	Drilled	Bush Lot.	
West Bank Demerara ...	Drilled	Canal No. 1 Polder.	
		Canal No. 2 Polder.	
Essequebo River.			
Leguan Island ...	Reconditioned ...	La Bagatelle.	
	Drilled	Richmond Hill.	
Wakenaam Island ...	Drilled	Sans Souci.	
Essequebo Coast ...	Drilled	Anna Regina Onderneeming.	

At the end of the year drilling operations were in progress on two wells, one at Wakenaam Island (Zeelandia), Essequebo River, the other at Aurora, Essequebo Coast.

Water Distribution.—Approximately 10·5 miles of Everite pipes were laid during the year, bringing the total miles of pipeline laid on the coastlands to 63.

It is satisfactory to note from the innumerable applications from village authorities and private individuals for pipe-borne artesian-well water that the people on the coastlands do appreciate the benefits to be derived from a pure-water supply and are not insensible to the safeguards provided against water-borne diseases.

Another satisfactory and commendable feature is the installation of systems of pipe-borne artesian-well water by several proprietors of sugar estates.

Private Wells.—During the year two wells were completed, with satisfactory flows, for Plantation La Bonne Intention on the East Coast Demerara, and Plantation Farm on the East Bank Demerara. These wells were also fitted with Everite screens and the steel casing lined with Everite pipe.

Private Water Distribution Lines.—1·17 miles of Everite pipelines were laid during the year, conveying water from the private wells on Plantations Farm, Providence and Diamond, on the East Bank Demerara.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

THE SUPREME COURT.

The Supreme Court consists of not less than two Judges, but may consist of three or more. The Court is duly constituted during and notwithstanding any vacancy in the office or absence from the Colony of any Judge. During 1936 there were only two Judges—the Chief Justice and one Puisne Judge.

A single Judge may, subject to the Rules of Court, exercise in Court or Chambers all or any part of the jurisdiction vested in the Court.

Digitized by Google

Civil Actions, Causes and Matters.

General.—The Judges sit to hear matters in the original civil jurisdiction of the Court throughout the year except during the statutory vacation of the Court, that is to say, in the months of July and August. The jurisdiction in such matters is exercised by any one of the Judges of the Court.

In 1936 the Court sat by one or more of its Judges on 103 days. Three hundred and thirty-two actions, causes and matters were instituted during the year 1936, and 196 were pending at the end of 1935, making a total of 528. Of these, 326 were disposed of, withdrawn or abandoned.

The numbers for the years 1934 and 1935 were as follows:—

	Instituted.	*Pending at end of preceding year.*	*Total.*	*Disposed of.*	*Pending at end of year.*
1934 ...	404	225	629	430	174
1935 ...	374	174	548	382	166

The Court usually sits in Georgetown in the County of Demerara, where cases from the counties of Berbice and Essequebo also are generally heard, but any civil cases required by the Rules of Court to be heard in the county of Berbice are, as a rule, taken by the Judge at the conclusion of the Criminal Sessions held in that county in February, June and October in each year. The Court only sits in the county of Essequebo to hear criminal matters.

A Judge sits on every Monday, in what is commonly known as the Bail Court, to deal with specially indorsed writs and motions whether in actions or otherwise. Summonses are taken in Chambers on Mondays.

Appellate Jurisdiction.—The Full Court, that is to say, a Bench composed of two or more Judges, sits on Fridays in Georgetown to hear (1) appeals from decisions of a single Judge, and (2) appeals from decisions of Magistrates.

No Judge sits in Full Court on the hearing of an appeal from a judgment or order given or made by him. Sections 89 and 94 of the Supreme Court of Judicature Ordinance, Chapter 10, prescribe the matters in which there is an appeal to the Full Court from the decision of a single Judge.

In 1936 the total number of appeals disposed of was 14, as compared with 29 in 1934 and 11 in 1935.

No appeal lies from the decision of the Full Court.

Matrimonial Causes.—In 1936 the Court dealt with ten cases of this kind, as compared with fourteen cases in 1934 and seven in 1935.

Admiralty Actions.—Actions of this kind are few in number. There were four actions in 1936, one in 1934 and one in 1935.

Digitized by Google

Wills.—Actions for probate of wills in solemn form of law are not frequent. In 1936 there were 281 applications for probate of wills in common form as against 274 in 1935 and 309 in 1934.

Letters of Administration.—Letters of Administration were granted in 1936 as follows:—

By a Judge (Usually the Chief Justice) of the Court (estates over $250)	71
By the Registrar (estates not exceeding $250)	55

The figures for the years 1934 and 1935 were as follows:—

	1934.	*1935.*
By a Judge	64	63
By the Registrar	61	38

Petitions.—These are required by the Rules of the Court to be addressed to the Supreme Court of British Guiana and are dealt with by the Chief Justice.

In 1936, 121 petitions were filed and 113 orders on petitions made, including 20 *Fiat Executio* orders, i.e. orders for leave to levy on immovable property. In 1935, 124 petitions were filed and 117 orders made, including 22 *Fiat Executio* orders; while in 1934, 103 petitions were filed and 97 orders made, including 25 *Fiat Executio* orders.

Parate Execution and Proceedings.—These are relicts of the Roman Dutch practice, in which the Judge without a trial makes a summary order for the recovery of debts due to the Colony and of town taxes, village rates, etc. Proceedings of this kind may be either *in personam* or *in rem,* the latter form being more common. Fiats were granted in 1936 as follows:—Town taxes 691, village rates 1,526, other matters 36.

The figures for the years 1934 and 1935 were:—

	1934.	*1935.*
Town taxes	753	337
Village rates	1,730	2,265
Other matters	29	38

Insolvency matters.—These are heard in Georgetown by a Judge in the Bail Court on Mondays. The Insolvency Ordinance, Chapter 180, is based on the English Bankruptcy Act, 1883.

In 1936 the Court dealt with twelve petitions for Receiving Orders, six being by creditors and six by debtors, the number of petitions in 1935 being eight (seven by creditors and one by the debtor himself), while in 1934 there were eight petitions (five by creditors and three by the debtors themselves). Two Administration Orders were made in 1936 as against two in 1935 and none in 1934, and applications for discharge from insolvency were made and granted in those years as follows:—1936, three; 1935, one; 1934, three.

Digitized by Google

Criminal Cases.—Statutory provision is made for sittings of the Court in the exercise of its criminal jurisdiction, in every year in each of the three counties of Demerara, Essequebo and Berbice, as follows: In Demerara in the months of January, April, June and October, in Essequebo, in February, May and October and in Berbice in February, June and October. Power is given to the Governor to suspend or postpone any such sittings by proclamation. No sitting is now held in Essequebo in October. Cases which would have been committed for that Session are committed for trial in Demerara in October. The former practice was for two Judges, the Chief Justice and a Puisne Judge to sit concurrently in Demerara, but apart from 1935, when two Courts sat concurrently in October, the Chief Justice since 1927 has sat alone in Demerara. Only one Judge attends the sittings in Berbice and Essequebo. In 1936 the criminal cases for trial included two for murder, nine for manslaughter, and forty-six for other offences, and these resulted in one conviction for murder, seven for manslaughter, and forty-one for other offences. The figures for the years 1934 and 1935 are as follows:—

	Cases.	*Convictions.*
1934—		
Murder	10	4
Manslaughter	5	3
Other Offences...	75	52
1935—		
Murder	13	10
Manslaughter	3	3
Other Offences...	63	52

A case may be stated by a Judge on a question of law which has arisen on the trial, and which has been reserved by him, for the consideration of the West Indian Court of Appeal.

West Indian Court of Appeal.—Section 94 of the Supreme Court of Judicature Ordinance, Chapter 10, prescribes the matters in which there is no appeal to the West Indian Court of Appeal.

The Chief Justice functions as one of the Judges of the West Indian Court of Appeal, and in that capacity is required to attend sittings of that Court outside the Colony from time to time. In 1936 he attended sittings of the Court in Trinidad (twice), Barbados, Antigua and Dominica. In that year there was one sitting of the Court in this Colony which occupied three days.

Police.

The establishment of the Police Force, exclusive of the Fire Brigade, consists of 17 officers, 2 warrant officers, and 640 other ranks, of whom 45 are mounted.

Digitized by Google

Since 1930 the personnel of the Force has been reduced by 3 officers, 4 warrant officers, 7 non-commissioned officers, 77 constables, and a chief clerk, while the cost of the Force has fallen from $505,413 in 1925 to $412,166 (estimated) in 1937, a reduction of $93,247.

Crimes reported to or known to the police during the year numbered 9,799. They comprise 23 homicides, 1,142 reports of other offences against the person, 75 cases of praedial larceny, 3,949 reports of other offences against property, and 4,610 of other crimes. The number of persons proceeded against in connexion with the foregoing figures were 31 for homicides, 1,193 for other offences against the person, 57 for praedial larceny, 1,385 for other offences against property, and 6,865 for other crimes.

The number of burglaries, house and shopbreakings reported to the police has fallen from 246 in 1926 to 96 in 1936, while the percentage of persons convicted to number of reports made has improved from 4·4 in 1926 to 31·2 in 1936.

Instruction in first aid to the injured became part of the regular routine training in 1928; on 31st December, 1936, 584 members of the Force were in possession of certificates issued by the St. John Ambulance Association; of these, 469 have qualified for vouchers, 358 for medallions, and 433 for labels.

Prisons.

The prisons of the Colony of British Guiana comprise two main prisons and three small ones; the latter are stationed in remote and sparsely-populated districts, viz., Mabaruma Prison in the North-West District, and Kamakusa and Kurupukari prisons in the Mazaruni and Rupununi Districts, respectively. These prisons are administered and maintained by the Prisons Department. Mabaruma and Kurupukari are controlled by the District Commissioners of those districts, and Kamakusa by the Travelling Magistrate of the Mazaruni River. The officers mentioned are all Deputy-Inspectors of Prisons.

The labour gangs are under the supervision of the police stationed in the respective districts.

The two principal prisons are as follows:—

(*a*) Georgetown Prison, situated in the County of Demerara, containing 186 cells for male prisoners, three large association wards, one hospital ward, three observation cells, and two rooms for debtors. Convicted female prisoners are sent to New Amsterdam Prison, but there are three cells for remanded females.

(*b*) New Amsterdam Prison, situated in the County of Berbice, containing 60 cells for male and 16 cells for female prisoners, with two hospital wards for male and female prisoners, respectively.

Digitized by Google

The prison staff consists of 12 superior officers, including prison surgeons and chaplains, 44 subordinate officers, and two matrons. Casual or temporary matrons are employed when necessary.

Prisoners are employed at various trades (mat-making, carpentry, simple printing, book-binding, tailoring, shoemaking, tinning, mail-bag making, etc.), in supplying the internal requirements of the prisons, and on public works and on the prison farms.

The mark system is in force and is applicable to all prisoners sentenced to 12 months and upwards. All prisoners are worked in association, but the principle that each cell should contain one occupant only is strictly observed, except in the case of patients in hospital or association wards.

As far as possible first offenders are kept separate from habitual criminals, and female prisoners are confined in separate buildings in such a manner as to prevent their seeing or holding any intercourse with the men.

There is no provision in the prisons of the Colony of British Guiana for juvenile offenders. Male juvenile offenders are sent to the Government Industrial School at Onderneeming, which is a separate establishment under the control of the Commissioner of the Essequebo district.

The health of the prisoners during the year 1936 was uniformly good, as is evidenced by the daily average in hospital, which was 1·11. Death from natural causes was one. The sick incidence was due mainly to malarial fever, bronchitis, and diarrhoea.

The numbers of prisoners committed to the different prisons during the year 1936 were—males 1,747, females 146, total 1,893.

There are no rules or regulations of the prisons in this Colony in connexion with the " Probation System ". All persons put on " probation " by the Court are subject, however, to the conditions imposed by the laws of the Colony, the offender being placed under the supervision of a Probation Officer.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

There were 35 public Ordinances passed during the year 1936. The principal of these were:—

Deeds Registry.—Ordinance No. 4, which amends the Deeds Registry Ordinance, Chapter 177, was enacted to remedy defects which existed in the law with respect to (*a*) the sale in execution of mortgaged property and the effect thereof on other incumbrances, and (*b*) the persons among whom the proceeds

Digitized by Google

of the sale are to be distributed. This Ordinance introduces a procedure which is in accordance with that which obtains elsewhere in the Empire under English Law and the Australian Torrens system. Under it, preferential charges or statutory claims will be enforceable in priority to all other incumbrances or rights over a property sold at execution and voluntary registered incumbrances will have priority *inter se*. It is hoped that the effect of the Ordinance will be to put dealings in property on a rational basis and to enhance the value of property.

Registration of Births and Deaths.—Ordinance No. 15 amends the Registration of Births and Deaths Ordinance, Chapter 139, so as to provide for the late registration of a birth on the written authority of the Registrar-General in cases where 12 months or more have passed since the birth. Hitherto a birth could only be registered within 12 months of its occurrence and in certain instances hardship was occasioned accordingly.

Cinematograph (British Quota).—Ordinance No. 16 amends the Cinematograph (British Films) Ordinance, 1933 (No. 42), which required cinematograph exhibitors to show a certain percentage of British films in each year. The effect of the amending Ordinance is to make the requirements of the 1933 Ordinance in respect of the percentage of British films to be shown less onerous and more gradual in application. The Principal Ordinance was brought into operation by Proclamation as from 1st January, 1937.

Importation of Bees.—Ordinance No. 18 re-enacts section 5 of the Importation of Bees Ordinance, 1935 (No. 38). Its object is to restrict to officers of the rank of sub-inspector and above the power given to the police to seize beekeepers' stock or bees suspected to having been imported in contravention of the Regulations made under the Ordinance. It also provides for the payment of compensation at the discretion of the Governor in Council to an aggrieved owner for damage arising out of any seizure subsequently found to have been unwarranted.

Life Assurance.—Ordinance No. 19 amends the Life Assurance Companies Ordinance, 1930 (No. 14) so as to transfer certain powers therein contained from the Governor in Council to the Governor.

Transport and Harbours: Road Services.—Ordinance No. 22 confers statutory powers on the Transport and Harbours Board to run road transport services.

Georgetown Town Council: Election of Mayor.—Ordinance No. 23 amends the Georgetown Town Council Ordinance, Chapter 86. Its object is two-fold—(1) to ensure that in the event of a tie occurring at the election of a Mayor, there shall be an election by the Municipal voters from the Councillors nominated for the office by their fellow Councillors; (2) to make it

Digitized by Google

clear that the limit of one hundred thousand dollars set on the borrowing powers of the Council by section 212 of Chapter 86 is set on the amount which may be outstanding at any given time and not on the amount which may be borrowed annually by the Council.

Hucksters.—Ordinance No. 28 is in effect a consolidating Ordinance. The rates of duty in respect of a huckster who uses a horse-drawn or donkey-drawn cart or a motor car have, however, been increased; the object for the increase is to strike a fair balance between these traders and the stationary shopkeeper who pays a trade licence fee. The Ordinance further strengthens the law with regard to the control of hucksters and the detection of offences.

Animal Diseases.—Ordinance No. 29 re-enacts with additions the Animals (Breed and Contagious Diseases) Ordinance, Chapter 272, as amended by Ordinance No. 38 of 1932. The new provisions are designed to strengthen the powers of the Department of Agriculture in dealing with outbreaks of disease and in taking preventative measures.

Supreme Court: Titles of Judges.—Ordinance No. 32 amends the Supreme Court of Judicature Ordinance, Chapter 10, so as to provide for a differentiation in title between the two Puisne Judges according to the salary attached to their appointments.

Deceased persons estates' administration.— Ordinance No. 34 repeals and replaces section 31 of the Deceased Persons Estates' Administration Ordinance, Chapter 149, so as to facilitate the winding-up of estates of deceased persons with property in different parts of the British Empire. Probates and Letters of Administration obtained in one part of the Empire can, by the simple procedure of re-sealing, have the same force and effect and the same operation in British Guiana as if they were granted locally.

Shops: early closing.—Ordinance No. 35 amends the Shops Regulation Ordinance, Chapter 77. Its object is to shorten the hours during which certain shops may open in the towns. It provides relief to a class of shop assistant whose hours of employment were generally considered to be unduly long.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue.

The Colony revenue for the year amounted to £1,142,311, exceeding the estimate by £123,109 and the previous year's collection by £53,233. There were no extraordinary receipts during 1936, whereas in 1935 the revenue included extraordinary receipts totalling £39,680.

Digitized by Google

Expenditure.

The Colony expenditure amounted to £1,131,673 as against £1,128,486 in 1935, an increase of £3,187. The estimates for the year totalled £1,117,330, including extraordinary appropriations of £26,358. The actual extraordinary expenditure was £29,358.

Special receipts from the undermentioned sources and the related expenditure not included in the revenue and expenditure totals above are as shown below:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
Colonial Development Fund—Approved Schemes	36,685	36,685
Unemployment and Flood Relief Works (Loan-in-aid from Imperial Government)	376	376
Loan-in-aid	40,000	—
	£77,061	£37,061

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years are as under:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1932	1,179,615 from all sources	1,137,789
1933	1,147,453 ,, ,,	1,129,319
1934	1,272,002 ,, ,,	1,205,427
1935	1,177,708 ,, ,,	1,197,116
1936	1,219,372 ,, ,,	1,168,734

Financial position.

	£	£	£
Balance of Surplus and Deficit Account at 1st January, 1936			65,300
The total Colony revenue of the year was		1,142,311	
The appropriation to revenue during the year from Colonial Development Fund and Unemployment and Flood Relief Loans-in-aid		37,061	
		1,179,372	
The total Colony expenditure was ...	1,131,673		
The expenditure on works financed from Colonial Development Fund and Unemployment and Flood Relief Loans-in-aid	37,061		
		1,168,734	
Surplus on year's working		10,638	
Imperial Loan-in-Aid—Balance 1935 provision		40,000	
			50,638
Surplus at 31st December, 1936			£115,938

Digitized by Google

Assets and Liabilities.

The balance sheet discloses the following position at the close of the year:—

	£	£
Surplus Funds—		
Balance on Surplus and Deficit Account		115,938
Borrowed Funds—		
Unexpended balance on Loan Account		259,120
His Majesty's Treasury for fixed working capital ...		100,000
Crown Agents' Joint Colonial Fund		7,000
		482,058
Disposal—		
Cash Balances	344,285	
Barclays Bank, London, deposit against loan interest payments due on 1st January, 1937	27,833	
Investment purchase of British Guiana Government 4 per cent. Bonds (Ord. 19 of 1896) for redemptions in 1937	35,350	
Unallocated Stores	39,285	
Advances in excess of deposits	35,305	
		£482,058

Public Debt.

	£	£
At 31st December, 1935, the Colony's funded debt amounted to		4,453,941
Stock issued by the Crown Agents in London during the year was		209,921
Making a total funded debt outstanding of... ...		4,663,862
Loans from the Colonial Development Fund at 31st December, 1935, amounted to	172,442	
Loans received during the year	20,457	
		192,899
Making a total Public Debt liability of		4,856,761

Exclusive of the liability in respect of outstanding Railway Permanent Annuities and Perpetual Stock involving an annual charge of £17,579.

The Sinking Fund held for redemption of the Public Debt totalled £540,860 with a mean market value of £574,560.

Main Heads of Taxation.

The following were the main heads of taxation during 1936 and the yield from each:—

	£	s.	d.
Customs	574,573	0	10
Excise and Licences	220,715	7	10
Stamp Duties	8,982	9	2½
Estate Duties	28,131	16	6
Acreage Tax	4,272	13	6
Duty on Transport and Mortgages	4,770	2	2
Income Tax	76,199	6	1

Digitized by Google

XVI.—CUSTOMS TARIFF.

The duties of customs on all dutiable goods the produce or manufacture of the British Empire are, subject to certain exceptions, fixed at 50 per cent. of the duties on similar goods produced in foreign countries. Among the exceptions are apples, butter, cheese, cocoa, cordage, fish, jams, lard and lard compounds, and milk, which receive a preference of 66⅔ per cent.; cement which receives over 76 per cent.; pickled beef and pork which receive 75 per cent.; bags and printing paper 60 per cent.; nitrogenous manures over 83 per cent.; cornmeal and flour about 28 per cent.; beer and stout about 20 per cent.; while the difference in the duty rates on spirits, tobacco and wines is small.

The rates of duty payable on most of the articles coming under the *ad valorem* schedule is 16⅔ per cent. preferential and 33⅓ per cent. general. The basic value of the collection of duty is c.i.f.

Cotton piece-goods of a yardage value not exceeding 1*s*. and hats pay 15 per cent. preferential and 30 per cent. general, while cotton hosiery pay 10 per cent. preferential and 10 per cent. plus 12 cents per pair or 30 per cent. (whichever is greater) under the general tariff. Boots and shoes of rubber pay 16⅔ per cent. preferential and 50 per cent. plus 24 cents per pair, general; while boots and shoes of all other kinds are admitted at 10 per cent. preferential and 30 per cent. plus 48 cents per pair general.

Duty at the preferential rate on all apparel is 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, the general rate being fixed at 30 per cent. plus:— in the case of shirts 24 cents each; men's under-pants and combination underwear, neckties, cravats and scarves, 18 cents each; collars, 4 cents each, and other kinds (except men's singlets and undervests), 36 cents each.

On dutiable articles bearing an advertising device there is a duty at the rate of 8⅓ per cent. preferential and 16⅔ per cent. general. Paints pay 6 per cent. preferential and 12 per cent. general. On motor vehicles and plated ware the duty is 20 per cent. preferential and 40 per cent. general. Confectionery is rated at 20 per cent. preferential and 60 per cent. general. Machinery of British origin is duty free, of foreign 7½ per cent. Apples are admitted at 50 cents preferential and $1.50 general, per 160 lb.

Advertising matter of no commercial value is free of duty regardless of origin, but is subject to 3 per cent. Bill of Entry Tax. Samples are admitted free subject to regulations.

Excise Duties.

Excise duty is levied in respect of rum and other spirits manufactured in the Colony. On every gallon of rum of the strength

Digitized by Google

of proof there is collected the sum of $4.50 and so on in proportion for any greater or less strength than the strength of proof, and for any greater or less quantity than a gallon.

Rum taken out of bond for the purpose of being used exclusively in any laboratory, or for the preservation of specimens of natural history for any public museum in the Colony is exempt from duty.

Upon all compounds manufactured by a compounder under the provisions of the Bitters and Cordials Ordinance—except upon medicinal preparations made from or containing spirits which pay a duty equal to the duty for the time being imposed under the British Preferential Tariff upon like articles imported into the Colony—there is collected a duty of $4.50 per proof gallon.

Liquor made from fruit and sugar, or from fruit mixed with any other material which has undergone a process of fermentation and contains more than 4 per cent. and less than 26 per cent. of spirits pays duty at the rate of 25 cents per liquid gallon, while denatured alcohol, motor fuel and methylated spirits, are not subject to excise duty.

Other spirits manufactured in the Colony are liable to duty at the rate of $4.50 per proof gallon except that upon all bay rum, lime rum, and other toilet preparations so manufactured, not over proof, and not potable, there is a duty of $3.00 the liquid gallon. There is also a distillery tax at the rate of one-half of one cent per proof gallon of rum manufactured in the Colony.

Matches manufactured in the Colony pay an excise duty at the rate of $2.50 per case containing ten gross of boxes of not more than 100 matches in each, and at a corresponding rate on any number of matches greater than or less than 144,000 if not packed, or however packed or put together. Provision is, however, made for drawback of the amount of duty paid on exportation of such matches.

Stamp Duties.

Stamp duties are imposed upon certain instruments, e.g., affidavits (1s. 6d.), agreements (1s.), appointment of trustee (10s. 5d.), articles of clerkship in order to be admitted as a solicitor in the Supreme Court (£79 3s. 4d.), awards of arbitrators in disputes involving sums not exceeding £5 4s. 2d. to £1,041 13s. 4d. (2d. to £2), bills of exchange for sums not exceeding £5 to sums not exceeding £100 (2d. to 2s.), conveyance or transfer on sale of any bond, debenture, scrip, stock or share (one-quarter of 1 per cent. of face value), deeds or notarial acts (1s. to £2).

Digitized by Google

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Visits to the Colony.

Sir John Maffey, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.C.V.O., Permanent Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Lady Maffey, accompanied by Mr. J. B. Sidebotham, M.A., of the Colonial Office.

Mr. N. Wright, A.R.C.S., B.Sc., Botanist of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture.

Mr. W. H. W. Komp, Sanitary Engineer of the United States Public Health Service.

Mr. P. Kodanda Rao, M.A., of the Servants of India Society, Poona, India.

Senorita Bertha Guzman Velasques, Chief of the Social Services Department of the Ministry of Health, Venezuela.

XVIII.—GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

The following publications of the British Guiana Government are on sale at the offices of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, Westminster, London, S.W.1, at the prices indicated:—

Handbook of the Colony	1s. each
Agricultural Journal of British Guiana	6d. each
"Rubber and Balata in British Guiana"	6d. each
"Timbers of British Guiana"	5s. each
Memorandum of terms on which Crown land can be bought ...	2d. each
Annual Reports of :—	
Transport and Harbours Department ...	½d. per page with maximum charge of 1s. each.
Colonial Treasurer	
Comptroller of Customs	
Commissioner of Lands and Mines ...	
Conservator of Forests	
Director of Education	
Director of Agriculture	
Director of Public Works	
Director of Widows' and Orphans' Fund	
District Administration	
Official Receiver and Public Trustee ...	
Postmaster-General	
Registrar-General	
And any others likely to be of interest ...	
Copies of British Guiana Ordinances likely to be of interest to persons outside the Colony.	2d. per page with maximum charge of 2s.
Regulations passed under these Ordinances	2d. per page with maximum charge of 2s.
Volumes of revised edition of Laws of British Guiana to 1929.	6 guineas per set (cloth). 5 guineas per set (stiff paper).

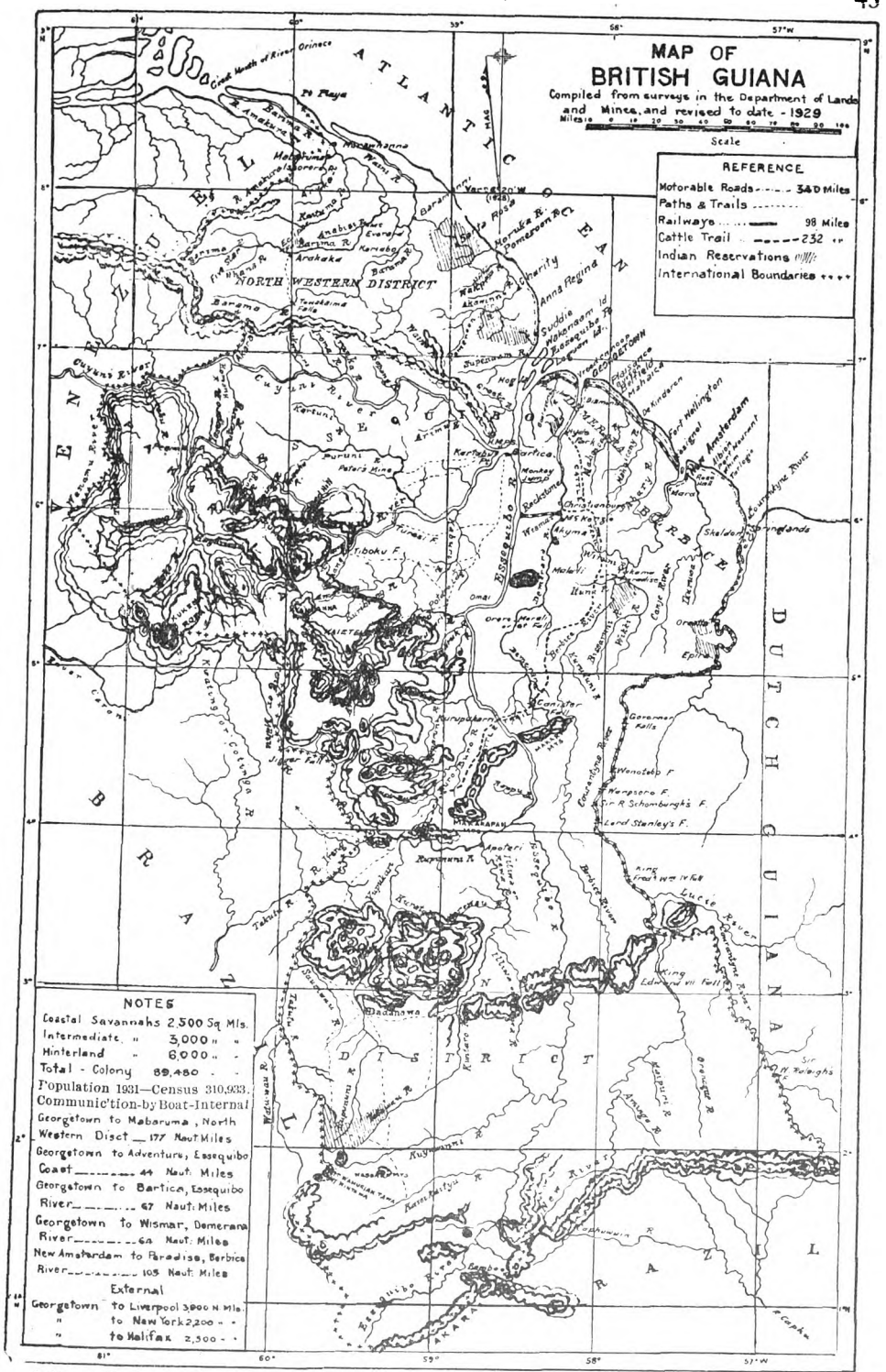
Digitized by Google

Blue Book	£1.
Legislative Council papers likely to be of interest to persons outside the Colony.	½d. per page with maximum charge of 1s.
Copies of Railway tariffs and time tables	Free of charge.

The following publications relating to the Colony can be obtained from the publishers and at the prices stated opposite them:—

Centenary History and Handbook of British Guiana by A. R. F. Webber, F.R.G.S. (Argosy Company, Limited)	5s. each
Through British Guiana to the Summit of Mount Roraima, by Mrs. (now Lady) Clementi. (Argosy Company, Limited) ...	5s. each
Travels in Guiana and on the Orinoco, by R. H. Schomburgh. (Argosy Company, Limited)	12s. 6d. each
Travels in British Guiana, by R. H. Schomburgh (in two volumes). (Argosy Company, Limited)	£1 0s. 10d. for both volumes
The Year Book of the Bahamas, the Bermudas, British Guiana, British Honduras, and British West Indies, 1932, by Sir Algernon Aspinall. (Wm. Fogarty, Limited)...	9s. each

Digitized by Google



(46679—48) Wt. 3028—3953 625 1/38 P. St. G. 377/7

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or thro

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1837

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1836

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

GOLD COAST, 1936-37

(For Report for 1934–35 see No. 1748 (Price 4s. 0d.) and for Report for 1935–36 see No. 1785 (Price 3s. 6d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN THE GOLD COAST COLONY)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No 138] 9d. (10d)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No 136] 3s. 6d (3s. 9d)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1836

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

GOLD COAST, 1936-37

(For Report for 1934-35 see No. 1748 (Price 4s. 0d.) and for Report for 1935-36 see No. 1785 (Price 3s. 6d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN THE GOLD COAST COLONY)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1938
Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE GOLD COAST, 1936-37

INDEX

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, including Climate and History	1
II.	Government	6
III.	Population	9
IV.	Health	11
V.	Housing	16
VI.	Production	18
VII.	Commerce	37
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	55
IX.	Education	57
X.	Communications	62
XI.	Banking and Currency	70
XII.	Public Works	71
XIII.	Justice, Police and Prisons	73
XIV.	Legislation	78
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	79
XVI.	Miscellaneous	82
	Appendix A	Publications of Local Interest.
	Appendix B	Map of the Gold Coast.

Digitized by Google

Dir't, Govt. Pub.
Sotheran
3-19-38
15-205

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Gold Coast Colony, with Ashanti, the Northern Territories and Togoland under British Mandate, is situated on the Gulf of Guinea between 3° 15′ W. long. and 1° 12′ E. long., and is bounded on the west by the French colony of the Ivory Coast, on the east by Togoland under French Mandate, on the north by the Ivory Coast and on the south by the Atlantic ocean.

The area of the Colony is 23,937 square miles, of Ashanti 24,379, of the Northern Territories 30,486 and of Togoland under British Mandate 13,041.

Climate.

The climate of the Gold Coast, although hot and damp, is cooler than that of most tropical countries situated within similar latitudes. The mean shade maximum temperature recorded during 1936 for Accra, Sekondi, Kumasi and Tamale was 83·3, 89·8, 87·4 and 93·9 and the mean relative humidity was 82·7, 76·9, 85·7 and 64·6 respectively. The rainfall varies with the configuration of the country, being greatest in the thick forest belts. The amount of rain which fell in 1936 at the stations mentioned above was 26·13 inches, 27·26 inches, 59·21 inches and 35·94 inches respectively.

During the months of January and February, the harmattan—a dry north wind from the Sahara—blows strongly, carrying with it particles of fine dust and rendering the atmosphere extremely dry. Characteristic features of this period are a sudden lowering of humidity and extremes of temperature.

History.

The known history of the people of the Gold Coast begins, for all practical purposes, with the discovery of the country by the Portuguese, who first landed on the coast towards the end of the fifteen century. The distribution of the various language groups and the absence of traces of large earlier settlements tend, however, to substantiate the traditional belief that the present population is the result of a series of waves of immigration which took place in comparatively recent historical times.

Of these immigrants the most numerous were the Akans, who came from the north or north-west in search of sanctuary to the forests of the Gold Coast, some sections of them eventually reaching the sea.

Digitized by Google

The Akans appear to have come in three waves. The first wave, consisting of the Guans and kindred peoples, came down the Volta valley, and probably as early as 1200 were in occupation of a crescent of land stretching from Bole through Salaga, Krachi, Anum and Accra, as far west as Winneba. The second wave, the ancestors of the Fantes, probably came down the Ofin and the Pra, arriving on the coast about 1300 and spreading eastward through Cape Coast until it came in contact with the Guan tribes. The third wave, the ancestors of the Twi peoples, came straight down between the earlier settlers, filling up Ashanti and Akim. The Akwamus, who were the spear-head of this advance, came in contact with the coast people about 1600.

Behind the Akans came the Moshi, who, partly by conquest and partly by peaceful penetration, obtained supremacy over the inhabitants of the northern part of the Gold Coast and established the Mamprussi and Dagomba kingdoms under the rule of sons or other relatives of their leaders. These kingdoms were established about the year 1500; and a century later the Gonja kingdom was formed by a fusion of Moshi elements with the earlier Akan settlers in the Bole and Salaga area. There was constant rivalry between the Gonja and Dagomba kingdoms until in the eighteenth century they both succumbed to the growing power of Ashanti.

About 1500 the south-east corner of the country was peopled by an infiltration of Ga, Adangbe, and Ewe tribes from the east and north-east. The present territorial situation was reached when in 1733 the Akwamus, the most southerly of the Twi-speaking tribes, were attacked by a confederation of the Gas, Akims, and others, and driven from the land of Akim to their present home east of the Volta; while a year or two later a section of the victorious Akims assumed the rule over the Guans in Akwapim.

The Gold Coast Colony.

There is some evidence that the Gold Coast was visited by French seamen towards the end of the fourteenth century; but the first Europeans to establish a permanent connection with the country were the Portuguese who, arriving in 1471, built the castle at Elmina eleven years later in order to protect their trading interests. They found on the coast a people of hunters and fishermen, primitive in habits and development, yet understanding the working of iron and fully conscious of the value of gold. No native state of any size had yet been established but numerous petty chiefdoms were in existence among the coast people, and inland the strong kingdom of Adansi was beginning to develop.

Until the close of the sixteenth century the Portuguese maintained their trading monopoly. Feeble efforts on the part of other European Powers, including the English, were made to obtain a footing on the coast, but the Portuguese were never seriously challenged until the advent of the Dutch in 1595.

Digitized by Google

At first the Portuguese were interested in obtaining gold, ivory and spices, but with the opening up of the New World there came a demand for cheap labour for the plantations. So commenced the transatlantic slave trade which, until its decline and abolition in the nineteenth century, shaped the history of the Gold Coast.

The main results of the slave trade were two-fold. First in order to feed the slaves awaiting shipment and their captors, the Portuguese were obliged to introduce food plants and to teach an improved method of agriculture to a people hitherto largely dependent for food on the natural resources of the forest and sea. Secondly, the lucrative nature of the trade attracted the attention of other European nations besides the Portuguese to the possibilities of the Gold Coast.

The Dutch, appearing on the coast in 1595, rapidly undermined the domination of the Portuguese. In 1637 they captured Elmina and in 1642 the Portuguese abandoned all their possessions in the Gold Coast to the newcomers. Other European Powers, including the English, followed and, fighting amongst themselves, scrambled for a footing on the coast. By 1750, however, the year in which the African Company of Merchants was formed and subsidised by the Imperial Government to the extent of £13,000 per annum, all had withdrawn except the Dutch with their headquarters at Elmina, the Danes with their headquarters at Christiansborg and the English with their headquarters at Cape Coast Castle.

In 1821 the Imperial Government first assumed the control of the British settlements in the Gold Coast, and the African Company of Merchants was dissolved, its possessions being vested in the Crown and placed under the Government of Sierra Leone. Seven years later, however, the Imperial Government, after considering complete withdrawal from the coast, entrusted the government of the settlements in the Gold Coast to a Committee of London Merchants. In 1843, however, the 1821 arrangement was restored in consequence of suspected slave trading, which had been prohibited by the British Government in 1807.

The year 1850 saw the separation of the British forts and settlements of the Gold Coast from Sierra Leone, the cession of the Danish possessions to Britain and the creation by Letters Patent of Executive and Legislative Councils, but in 1866 government from Sierra Leone was resumed.

In 1872 the Dutch withdrew from the Gold Coast, handing over their possessions to the British. Two years later, after Sir Garnet Wolseley's successful Ashanti campaign, came the final separation from Sierra Leone, measures being taken on the conclusion of peace for placing the government of the Gold Coast on a footing of efficiency and security. A new Charter was issued dated the 24th July, 1874, separating Her Majesty's settlements on the Gold Coast and Lagos from the Government of Sierra Leone

Digitized by Google

and constituting them into one colony under the style of the Gold Coast Colony under a Governor-in-Chief with an Administrator at Lagos.

In 1886 all the settlements and territories belonging to Her Majesty on the Gold Coast were, by Letters Patent dated the 13th January, formed into a distinct colony, Lagos being separated therefrom. This territory, however, did not include all the areas under British protection and had no specified boundaries. To regularise the position, therefore, these protected areas were annexed to His Majesty's Dominions and declared to be part and parcel of His Majesty's Gold Coast Colony by Order-in-Council of the 26th September, 1901. The boundaries of the Colony thus constituted were defined by Order-in-Council dated the 22nd October, 1906, and have since remained unchanged.

Ashanti.

Meanwhile evolution had been proceeding among the immigrants whom the Portuguese found living in the country at the end of the fifteenth century. Assimilating what aborigines they found; they had been developing settled habits and had begun entering into the permanent occupation of roughly defined tracts of country. In the coastal areas of the Gold Coast development took place by way of small autonomous units under European protection, but in the interior it took the form of tribal confederations for offensive and defensive purposes.

Of such organizations by far the biggest and most highly developed was that of the Ashantis which with its capital at Kumasi had begun to establish its ascendancy towards the close of the seventeenth century. The eighteenth century witnessed the consolidation of the military power of Ashanti and the growth of its magnificence.

The growing military power of Ashanti aspired towards the domination of the whole Gold Coast and consequently the British policy of protecting the coast tribes who dwelt under their aegis was the cause of continuous friction with the Ashantis and of the various wars which took place during the nineteenth century until the final pacification of the country in 1900.

In January, 1824 Sir Charles MacCarthy, the Governor of Sierra Leone, led an expedition against the Ashantis in the endeavour to beat off an invasion. He was defeated and killed at Insamankow. Two years later, however, the British, assisted by Akim, Akwamu, Denkyira and Accra levies, signally defeated and routed the Ashantis at Dodowa.

Hostilities recommenced in 1873 and in 1874 Sir Garnet Wolseley led an expedition against Kumasi which he captured and destroyed. After this war the military confederation of the Ashantis fell into anarchy. Several important divisions renounced their allegiance and civil war ensued. Trade was at a standstill;

Digitized by Google

the indemnity imposed on Ashanti after the war of 1874 could not be paid; and on various occasions the British Government was asked by one party or another to intervene in Ashanti affairs. Conditions became intolerable and the Government decided to assume control of the country. In 1896 a further expedition was sent to Kumasi and Prempeh, the King of Ashanti, and other notables were arrested and deported. A Resident was appointed to administer the kingdom and a fort was constructed and garrisoned at Kumasi.

The Ashantis, however, were not yet subjugated and in 1900 a demand by the Governor for the surrender of their Golden Stool—which every Ashanti believes to be the abiding place of the spirit of the Ashanti nation—brought them up in arms with the result that the Governor was besieged in the fort. Accompanied by a strong escort, however, he was able to make his way through to the coast and a military expedition was sent to Kumasi which relieved the fort and broke up further resistance.

In 1901 Ashanti was annexed to the Crown and since that date it has become settled and prosperous. Ex-King Prempeh was allowed to return to Ashanti in 1924 and two years later to assume the position of Kumasihene or Head Chief of the Kumasi Division. He died in 1932.

Investigation since 1932 regarding the wishes of the people of Ashanti revealed that the great majority were in favour of the restoration of the Ashanti Confederacy, the political organisation which had existed before the rising of 1900. On the 31st of January, 1935, the restoration of the Confederacy was proclaimed and official recognition was given to Osei Agyeman Prempeh II as Asantehene, the ancient title of the head of the Ashanti nation.

The Northern Territories.

That portion of the Gold Coast which lies to the north of Ashanti came under British influence in 1897 after the conclusion of treaties with the chiefs concerned and after international settlement with France and Germany. The area was proclaimed a Protectorate in 1901.

Togoland under British Mandate.

In 1922 a portion of the former German colony of Togoland was placed under British mandate. The territory is now administered under the Togoland under British Mandate Order-in-Council, 1923.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Gold Coast Colony is administered by the Governor, assisted by an Executive Council constituted by Letters Patent and Royal Instructions dated the 23rd May, 1925 and composed of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, the Director of Medical Services and the Secretary for Native Affairs.

The Colony of Ashanti is administered by the Governor under the provisions of the Ashanti Order in Council, 1934, dated the 9th November, 1934, and of Royal Instructions dated the 23rd November, 1934. The Protectorate of the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast is administered by similar instruments of the same dates. The Mandated territory of Togoland under British Mandate is administered under the provisions of the Togoland under British Mandate Order-in-Council, 1923, as amended by the Togoland under British Mandate Order-in-Council, 1934.

Joint ordinances for the Colony, Ashanti, the Northern Territories and Togoland under British Mandate are made by the Governor with the advice and consent, so far as their provisions relate to the Colony, of the Legislative Council under the provisions of the Gold Coast Ordinances Order-in-Council, 1934.

In addition to the law-making power conferred by the Gold Coast Ordinances Order-in-Council, 1934, the Governor is empowered, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council of the Gold Coast Colony, constituted by the Gold Coast Colony (Legislative Council) Order-in-Council, 1925 and consisting of the Governor, fifteen official members and fourteen unofficial members, to make laws for the Colony. The Council contains an elective element, provision being made for the election of six head chiefs as provincial members, three municipal members to represent the towns of Accra, Cape Coast and Sekondi respectively, a mercantile member and a mining member.

The Governor is also under the respective instruments providing for their administration enabled to enact laws for Ashanti, the Northern Territories and Togoland under British Mandate.

System of Government.

The system of government generally may be described as a mixture of direct and indirect rule with a steady bias towards the latter. The native administration is almost entirely in the hands of the native chiefs, who are assisted in their respective spheres of authority by their councils of elders who are generally representative of various sections of the community. Native

Digitized by Google

tribunals presided over by chiefs form part of the judicial system, and their judgments are subject to appeal to the Supreme Court, and from the Supreme Court appeals may finally reach the Privy Council.

In executive and constitutional issues the decisions of a State Council, as the highest native authority is called, are subject to appeal to the Governor, whose decision is final.

The Gold Coast Colony is divided into three provinces, Central, Western and Eastern, the last including the southern section of that part of Togoland under British Mandate, and each province is in charge of a Provincial Commissioner, assisted by District and Assistant District Commissioners.

Ashanti is divided into districts each under a District Commissioner who exercises limited powers of jurisdiction. The dependency is administered by a Chief Commissioner assisted by an Assistant Chief Commissioner. The protectorate of the Northern Territories is administered in a similar manner.

Municipal Administration.

The local affairs of the towns of Accra, Cape Coast and Sekondi are administered by town councils, consisting of five official and five unofficial members. Their revenue is derived from house and land rates, various licences, and an annual grant-in-aid from Government. The councils are invested with powers and duties under certain ordinances, and further have the power generally to do all such acts as may be necessary for the conservancy of the town and for the preservation of public health.

Town sanitary committees have been established at a number of smaller towns, but they are purely advisory, with no power of taxation. These committees, however, have done much to improve the standard of sanitation and are most useful institutions.

The municipal administration of Kumasi, the administrative headquarters of Ashanti, is in the hands of the Kumasi Public Health Board, which was formed in July, 1925. The revenue of the Board is chiefly derived from rates, licences and fees similar to those charged by the various town councils in the Colony.

The Obuasi Sanitary Board, established in 1935, exercises statutory control over the sanitary affairs of the town of Obuasi in Ashanti and is empowered to take all measures necessary for the proper conservancy, lighting and public health of the town. The revenue of the Board consists chiefly of fees and charges for services rendered, fines and penalties.

Progress of Native Administration.

Except in the Northern Territories, progress in regard to native administration in the Gold Coast continues to be slow.

Digitized by Google

The great increase in prosperity which the activity in mining has brought to many of the States has not been proportionately reflected in the development of their social services. In some instances, however, notably in the Western Province, there has been a distinct advance; a proper system of accountancy and control has been introduced into State finances, dispensaries have been opened, sanitary amenities increased and roads developed, while agriculture also has received attention.

In Ashanti the Confederacy, which was revived in January, 1935, has made steady progress. The system of native courts, stool treasuries and the delegation of the powers of the Asantehene to native authorities responsible for the administration of defined areas has developed along the lines envisaged at the time of the restoration with surprisingly little disturbance of the ordinary life of the people.

The Northern Territories have seen the greatest advance in native administration so far recorded in the history of the Gold Coast. Chiefs and councillors have been granted limited powers in the government of their divisions, tribunals have been set up, each under the direct supervision of the District Commissioner, and direct taxation has been introduced, the assessment and collection of which is carried out almost entirely by the native authorities, the administrative officers acting in a purely advisory capacity. The introduction and successful operation of this tax is an event of unique historical significance, for not since the later years of the nineteenth century has any form of direct taxation been paid by any section of the people of the Gold Coast. Moreover, the keenness displayed by the Protectorate chiefs and their sense of responsibility have been such that the estimated revenue from the tax was exceeded in every division and there were no instances of abuse, embezzlement or evasion. This result reflects the greatest credit on the native authorities and gives cause for considerable confidence in the future development of the territory.

The revenue, which is administered through properly constituted native treasuries, has been applied to the general welfare of the people in a manner which should act as a great incentive and example to the States in other parts of the Gold Coast. Roads, wells, cattle kraals, dispensaries and sanitary conveniences have been provided in every division, while the chiefs and tribunal members, together with the staff necessary for the various services, have for the first time been paid regular salaries. As a result, the reliability and efficiency of these services have increased to a degree unthought of a few years ago.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

At mid-year 1936 the population of the Gold Coast, including Togoland under British Mandate was estimated at 3,618,376, a total which shows an increase of 87,643 over that for the previous year.

The following tables indicate the distribution of this population :—

TABLE I.

	Resident Africans.	*Resident Non-Africans.*	*Maritime*
Colony	1,780,969	2,837	172
Ashanti	668,320	474	—
Northern Territories ...	815,408	98	—
Togoland	349,179	54	—
	3,613,876	3,463*	172

TABLE II.

Town.	*Estimated Population at mid-year* 1936.
Accra	71,016
Kumasi	42,203
Sekondi	20,864
Cape Coast	19,134
Tamale	17,687
Koforidua	13,243
Ho	3,549

Births.

Birth and death registration is applied to 35 centres, the total population of which equals some nine per centum of the population of the Gold Coast as a whole.

TABLE III.

	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Male ...	4,080	4,726	4,794	4,794	4,966	5,591
Female ...	4,159	4,650	4,820	4,843	5,140	5,631
Persons ...	8,239	9,376	9,614	9,637	10,106	11,222

The " weighted average " birth-rate was 34·5 per thousand persons living as compared with 33·0 for 1935.

*Excluding 865 Non-African Government Officials.

Digitized by Google

The natural increase of births over deaths in the registration areas was 3,220.

Deaths.

TABLE IV.

	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Male ...	3,765	3,687	3,981	4,025	4,827	4,972
Female ...	2,207	2,218	2,283	2,525	3,004	3,030
Persons ...	5,972	5,905	6,264	6,550	7,831	8,002

The "weighted average" death-rate for the Gold Coast was 24.5 compared with 25.5 in the previous year.

The infant mortality rate was 108 as compared with 127 in the previous year.

Owing to the fact that the registration of births and deaths applies to less than ten per centum of the population of the Gold Coast, and that factors of immigration and emigration cannot properly be gauged, the above figures must be accepted with reserve. The economic stress of the past few years, a high tide of immigration—composed chiefly of members of the labouring classes in a poor physical condition—and a measure of returning prosperity are all factors which affect the result.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

European Community.

The year brought a further increase in European population, the total number being 4,328 for 1936, as compared with 3,969 for 1935.

An examination of the records shows a general increase in death and invaliding rates for all Europeans. 1936 was a particularly unfortunate year for European officials, the death-rate per 1,000 being 13·2 as compared with 5·9 for the ten year period 1924–34 and 1·7 for the year 1935.

The invaliding rate for European officials fell slightly during 1936 while that for merchants, mining company employees and missionaries, as the following figures will show, rose considerably :—

	1935.	1936.	
Merchants	18·3	26·7	per 1,000
Mining Companies ...	32·9	48·5	
Missionaries	31·6	80·5	

African Community.

The general health of the African community was better than in 1935.

There was, it is true, an increase in deaths by 2·2 per cent over 1935 but this was offset by an increase of 11·5 per cent of total births. The infant mortality rate, which is considered an especially sensitive index of health conditions, fell from 127 to 108 per thousand.

The invaliding rate for African officials fell from ·7 to ·6 per centum and the percentage of deaths from ·6 to ·37. Deaths among African officials totalled 21 in 1935 and 14 in 1936.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

At the end of 1936 there were seven Government hospitals with 68 beds for Europeans and 32 African hospitals with 995 beds and 120 cots. The latter figures are an increase of 61 and 14 respectively over those of 1935.

A new African hospital was erected at Tarkwa. The main block consists of a male ward of 12 beds, a male ward for officials of four beds, a female ward of four beds and a maternity ward of two beds. There is also an administrative block and a separate pavilion for the treatment of six male and four female cases of tuberculosis.

Digitized by Google

It is proposed to install a full power X-Ray plant at this hospital during 1937, not only for the early diagnosis of tuberculosis and fractures, etc., but also for the purpose of obtaining accurate knowledge of the prevalence of silicosis in the mines.

In addition to the above hospitals there is a 56 bed Mission hospital at Agogo in Ashanti and a small 18-bed hospital at Achimota College near Accra.

A hostel for pupil midwives was opened in Accra in April, 1936, and is now firmly established.

Minor alterations and structural changes were effected at the following main centres.

Gold Coast Hospital, Accra.

A female dressing shed and an examination room, affording a privacy which was hitherto lacking, have been added to the out-patient block.

Kumasi.

Some minor structural changes were made during the year. To the European hospital, for example, a new block containing bath-rooms and other conveniences was added.

At the African hospital two large concrete water tanks were converted into rooms, one of which is used as a laundry store while in the other a hot water plant has been installed.

Tamale.

A large main store was converted into a female ward to provide improved accommodation for women. A new nurses block of double quarters and a kitchen were also erected.

The Dagomba Native Administration has undertaken to assist in building a camp to accommodate about forty patients. This will relieve congestion in the main wards.

Proposed New Hospitals.

At Cape Coast and Sekondi two out-of-date and inadequate African hospitals will be replaced during 1937–38 by two modern hospitals of 80 beds, each with a special maternity wing and accommodation for infectious cases.

A site about twelve miles from Kumasi has been acquired by Government for the purpose of erecting a new mental hospital on modern lines.

It is also hoped to erect a new European hospital at Kumasi, the present building being old and unsuitably sited.

The following tables give an indication of patients dealt with at Government hospitals, with special reference to the larger centres :—

Digitized by Google

TABLE I.

(*a*) All Hospitals.

	1935.	1936.	Increase or decrease.
In-patients	25,397	27,081	+1,684
Out-patients	248,079	284,130	+36,051

TABLE II.

(*b*) Gold Coast Hospital, Accra, 228 beds and 18 cots.

	1935.	1936.	Increase or decrease.
Out-patients	17,983	18,807	+824
In-patients	3,140	3,327	+187
Daily average (in-patients)	233	201	—32
Major operations	683	653	—30
Minor operations	1,482	1,634	+152

TABLE III.

(*c*) Kumasi African Hospital, 137 beds and five cots.

	1935.	1936.	Increase or decrease.
Out-patients	12,660	12,714	+54
In-patients	2,758	2,989	+231
Daily average (in-patients)	140	139	—1
Major operations	141	139	—2
Minor operations	509	631	+122

TABLE IV.

(*d*) Accra Maternity Hospital, 42 beds and 29 cots.

	1935.	1936.	Increase or decrease.
In-patients	1,681	1,347	—334
Deliveries	662	627	—35
Attendances at antenatal and post-natal clinics	14,132	18,098	+3,966

Digitized by Google

TABLE V.

(*e*) Cape Coast and Sekondi Red Cross Welfare Centres.

	1935.	1936.	Increase or decrease.
Ante-natal cases	5,195	6,687	+1,492
Infants and children treated	12,433	11,719	—714

Missions.

The Roman Catholic Mission continues to carry out welfare and dispensary work at Djodje in the Eastern Province, at Eikwe in the Western Province, at Kpandu in Togoland under British Mandate, and at Jirapa in the Northern Territories. These centres as in the past are visited periodically by Government medical officers.

The Basel Mission operates a 56-bed hospital at Agogo in Ashanti.

Dispensaries.

The Native Administrations have, with Government assistance, built several dispensaries during the year. These are staffed by African dispensers, trained and employed by Government. With supervision by Government medical officers adequate to ensure the maintenance of a proper standard of efficiency, these dispensaries meet the minor medical needs of the areas in which they are situated.

The following table indicates the number and distribution of the Native Administration dispensaries which were in operation at the end of 1936.

TABLE VI.

	Town in which dispensary is situated.	Date on which taken over by Dispenser.
COLONY :		
Eastern Province	Dabala	18–4–36
	Nkawkaw	2–9–36
Central Province	Fante-Yankumasi ...	13–12–36
	Elmina	Long established.
Western Province	Anwiawso	14–5–36
	Enchi	31–3–32
	Essiama	23–3–36
	Wioso	May, 1936
ASHANTI	Wenchi	26–5–36
NORTHERN TERRITORIES ...	Bole	21–3–33
	Gambaga	Long established.
	Garu	28–6–36
	Tumu	24–5–35
	Walewale	12–1–36
	Zuarungu	Long established.
	Kete Krachi	Long established.

Digitized by Google

In addition, dispensaries were under construction at Abomoso in the Eastern Province, at Asafo in the Western Province, at Kintampo and Attabubu in Ashanti, and at the following places in the Northern Territories: Zabzugu, Chereponi, Ketiu, Fian, Sandema, Hian, Karaga.

Prevalent Diseases.

Yaws is still the most prevalent of infectious diseases and was responsible for 62·7 per cent of the 123,938 cases treated in hospitals during the year.

Malaria provided 20·3 per cent of total cases of infectious diseases. This figure shows a slight fall from the 23 per cent of 1935.

Pneumonia was the cause of 27·1 per cent of total deaths from infectious diseases: 28·5 per cent were attributed to *tuberculosis* and 7·1 per cent to *malaria*.

The total deaths from all diseases treated in hospitals were 2,082 or 7·7 per cent of 27,081 in-patients treated.

Sleeping sickness continues to give cause for some anxiety on account of the large number of infected and badly nourished immigrants who act as reservoirs. A special and very detailed survey is now being undertaken. The returns indicate an increase of the incidence of this disease in western Mamprussi, south-eastern Gonja and the vicinity of Dunkwa and Mpraeso.

The number of cases seen at Nakpanduri field hospital fell from 1,631 in 1935 to 1,165 in 1936 but at Gambaga 572 patients attended for treatment, as against only 52 in the previous year.

Investigation of immigrants from the North at Kumasi showed an infection of 2 per cent.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

In 1935 it was anticipated that an acceleration of building activity was impending and 1936 has proved this surmise to have been prophetic. Most centres have recorded steady, while in Accra and Kumasi there has been striking, progress.

Tamale was almost the only town which did not share in the general revival. The desire to avoid paying water rates was no doubt partly responsible and it is interesting to note the significant coincidence that at Savelugu, sixteen miles away, the number of buildings erected during the year was larger than ever before.

Housing conditions generally have continued to improve and the African has shown an increasing desire to erect more substantial buildings, with larger and better ventilated rooms. These improvements have been made possible by the happier financial condition in which, thanks to the development of the mining industry and the rise in the price of cocoa, the people now find themselves.

The general custom in the Gold Coast is to build slowly, often in alternating halts and advances, the periods of rest being usually devoted to the accumulation of funds and material in preparation for a fresh advance towards completion. A well-built house is considered to be a sound investment for the future. In the larger centres sandcrete blocks constitute the material almost invariably selected and buildings in stone and burnt brick are seldom seen. In the smaller towns sun-dried brick and *pise de terre* are most often used, while in the frankly rural areas wattle and daub dwellings are in the majority. In certain favourably situated districts stone buildings predominate, but such areas are few and far between.

The African in the more advanced towns has shewn a preference for the developed areas and a readiness to conform with the lay-outs which have been prepared. There are, of course, exceptions to this pleasing rule, but in the main it is true to say that the people of the Gold Coast are now fully sensible of the advantages of living in a well-laid-out area under sanitary conditions.

In the municipalities, e.g. Accra, Sekondi, Cape Coast and Kumasi and in the mining town of Obuasi where a Sanitary Board is in control, special staff is available for the regulation of building activities. In the remaining towns and townships, control is exercised by officers of the Public Works Department, co-operating with the Health authorities and the Political Administration, while in the frankly rural areas administrative and Health officers alone combine to provide the necessary supervision. During the year

Digitized by Google

several town lay-outs, the majority of which were in connection with the mining industry, were demarcated by the Survey Department.

These mining towns may be placed either under the provisions of the Towns Ordinance or under those of the Mining Health Areas Ordinance and a good deal of anxiety is felt with regard to them. The building standards required under the two ordinances are exactly similar and, although they are by no means high, many a prospective builder finds himself unable, or shows himself unwilling, to satisfy them. It is obvious, however, that were they to be lowered, the effect would be disastrous, as is proved by the unhappy fate of villages where legal action has not been possible in time to prevent a sudden inrush of squatters and the resulting mushroom growth of insanitary hovels.

The " ribbon-building " which is taking place along roadways leading to important mining areas in localities where control is difficult also presents a distinct menace to health. Many of the larger mining concerns, however, are engaged on important housing schemes for the accommodation of their African labourers under good hygienic conditions.

In several of the older and larger centres, slum areas of considerable extent are to be found. After a social survey of certain such areas in Accra it has been computed that some ten per centum of the inhabitants of that town live under congested, unsuitable conditions. It may be possible in the future to extend the scope of these surveys to other important centres in the Gold Coast.

It is pleasing to note that in several towns new and well-drained roadways have been constructed to afford easy access to houses which had been built on approved lay-outs in anticipation of the eventual provision of such amenities.

There is little doubt that the present building revival will continue and it is indeed likely to grow in intensity.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

The principal occupation of the inhabitants of the Gold Coast is agriculture. In the Colony, Ashanti and the southern section of Togoland under British mandate the chief agricultural industry is the cultivation of cocoa for export. In the Northern Territories, where cocoa does not thrive, food-crops are grown and live-stock is raised and marketed. Even in the cocoa-bearing areas, however, and in the region of the considerable fishing industry of the littoral, food farms are numerous and there is a large internal trade in foodstuffs.

Steps are now being taken to encourage the large-scale production of such fruits as bananas, more especially near the coastal regions, with a view to the creation of a fruit export industry. At the Department of Agriculture's experimental station at Asuansi a small canning plant has been installed and successful trials conducted with grape-fruit, an attractive article being turned out which has kept in excellent condition for periods as long as eight months. This tinned fruit has sold readily on a small scale and there may possibly be an opening for larger supplies. The technique of canning is not difficult to learn and the work has been carried out entirely by Africans with very little supervision.

Next in importance to agriculture is the mining industry. Gold mining has long been established in the Western Province of the Colony and in southern Ashanti and has lately been undertaken in the Central Province and the Northern Territories with success. There is a manganese mine in the Western Province and diamond mines in the Eastern and Central Provinces.

Agriculture.

Cocoa.

Production of cocoa can only be assessed by indirect methods such as movements by railway and road. The major crop is produced between September and February and the minor crop, about six to ten per cent of the annual total, between June and August. At the end of September the stocks of cocoa held in the Colony are, at a minimum estimate, about ten to fifteen thousand tons so that the export for the period 1st October to 30th September gives a fairly accurate record of the total production in the crop year.

The production during the 1935–36 crop year exceeded that of the preceding year by 9,000 tons. The major crop amounted to 263,000 tons. The minor crop was 22,000 tons, giving a grand total production for the crop year of 285,000 tons. The total

Digitized by Google

exports during the period 1st October, 1935, to 30th September, 1936, were 293,455 tons. The 1936–37 major crop production is estimated to be 270,000 tons and the minor crop 20,000 tons, making an estimated grand total for 1936–37 of 290,000 tons.

The exports during the past five financial years were as follows :—

FINANCIAL YEAR—1ST APRIL TO 31ST MARCH.

	In Tons.		
	Maritime.	Eastern Frontier.	Total.
1936–37	289,084	5 890	294,974
35–36	277,698	7,653	285,351
34–35	228,617	9,089	237,706
33–34	258,254	4,264	262,518
32–33	201,459	5,549	207,008

In a typical cocoa village with a population of 1,181 in the Western Akim district of the Central Province 201 families, living in 153 separate compounds, produced and sold 5,451 loads of 60 lb. each in the crop year 1934–35. The number of farmers was 174 males and 180 females giving a production per head of 924 lb. of cocoa worth, at the then average season price of 7s. 7d. per load, about £5 16s. The price during 1936–37 has been nearly treble this figure.

Kola.

Exports of kola nuts by sea have again increased to a trifling extent but there has been little difference in the movement overland. Factors militating against maritime exports are the lowered price now received for kola and the increased production in Nigeria, whither most of the nuts were formerly exported.

The following table for the five financial years shows the movement of nuts in tons :—

Movement within country	1936–37.	1935–36	1934–35.	1933–34	1932–33.
Ashanti to North, overland	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	4,796
Ashanti to South by rail ...	88	125	57	19	24
Colony to North, overland	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	129
Exports.					
Exports *via* ports	293	204	114	197	249
Exports overland	3,785	3,866	2,785	2,291	2,845
Total Exports	4,078	4,070	2,899	2,488	3,094

n.r.=No record.

Digitized by Google

Oil Palm Products.

The oil palm is indigenous to the forests of the Gold Coast, palm oil (pericarp oil) and palm-kernel oil being used for culinary purposes by the people. Production for export depends on price, and in consequence of increased rates has made some recovery.

Exports in recent financial years have been as follows :—

Maritime and Overland.		1936–37.	1935–36.	1934–35	1933–34.	1932–33.
Palm oil	Tons	890	556	84	10	454
	Value	£7,439	£8,880	£885	£100	£6,453
Palm Kernels ...	Tons	11,056	7,539	3,916	2,493	6,946
	Value	£115,519	£55,104	£22,750	£17,664	£59,329

One oil mill continues to work in the Western Province, disposing of much of its oil-output locally, but the mill reopened in 1936 in the Eastern Province has been badly supported and may have to close down.

Bananas.

During the year under review Government continued a series of shipments with bananas of the Gros Michel and Cavendish varieties, principally the latter. Approximately 55,000 bunches were shipped, the bananas being mostly grown within easy range of the port of Takoradi. The trials have shown that Gold Coast bananas can be placed on the United Kingdom market in excellent condition and that there are few agricultural difficulties in the production of good bunches. In the absence of large plantations the difficulties of the enterprise lie rather in the task of organising the numerous peasant growers in such a manner as to enable then to cope with the local problems of cultivation, to harvest their crop correctly and to undertake for themselves the responsibility of packing the bunches and delivering them to the port. These last two operations are at present carried out by the Department of Agriculture. The lack of cultivation given to farms by native producers is pronounced, and the consequent decline in the number of marketable bunches is severe in many instances. Constant propaganda is carried out, but with little effect. Government is continuing to support the industry, but the outlook must be regarded as problematical.

Copra.

Exports have grown owing to better prices, and there is increasing domestic consumption.

Digitized by Google

Exports in recent financial years have been as follows :—

Maritime and Overland.	1936–37.	1935–36.	1934–35.	1933–34.	1932–33.
Tons	2,039	2,025	1,035	1,091	1,426
Value	£23,252	£17,087	£6,836	£10,156	£16,645

Cotton.

There were no maritime exports during the year, but exports of seed cotton over the frontier remain near a figure of 75 tons annually. Little interest is taken in the crop in the Northern Territories at present prices, though some cotton is grown for local use.

Rice.

A Government rice mill in the Western Province continues to encourage production, but the public taste seems to become even more firmly fixed on the imported white rice. The following table shows the amounts of paddy that have been brought to the mill during the last five years :—

	1936–37.	1935–36.	1934–35.	1933–34.	1932–33.
Paddy (tons) ...	190	220	258	426	354

Rice is grown in small quantities for local use in other parts of the Colony.

The rice from the mill is all consumed locally. The prices paid to the farmer at the mill for 100lb. of rice have been as follows :—

	s.	*d.*
1936–37	9	2
1935–36	9	2
1934–35	7	6
1933–34	7	6
1932–33	10	0

Rubber.

Exports again increased considerably owing to better prices.

The following table shows the quantity of rubber exported during the last five years :—

1936–37.	1935–36.	1934–35.	1933–34.	1932–33.
lb.	*lb.*	*lb.*	*lb.*	*lb.*
957,310	774,144	364,243	87,997	19,863

Digitized by Google

Food-crops.

There is a large production of food-crops such as yams, cassava, maize, cocoyams, groundnuts, guinea corn, plantains, etc., for local consumption, the market for these commodities having increased as a result of the great expansion in the mining industry.

The staple foodstuffs vary considerably in different parts of the country. In the extreme north of the Northern Territories the staple vegetable foods are early and late millet and guinea corn, with small quantities of groundnuts, beans and various oil seeds. Cattle are rarely slaughtered for consumption, but sheep, goats, and poultry are occasionally eaten.

Further south in the Northern Territories, the yam becomes the main food supply, with millet, maize, guinea corn, beans, groundnuts and rice as subsidiary crops. This is the true savannah zone and little of economic value is at present produced in this area.

In the forest zone, the area of greatest productivity which contains the cocoa and mining regions, plantains, yams, maize, beans, groundnuts, palm oil and fruits, cocoyams, sweet potatoes and cassava are eaten, while animal foods are sparingly used.

In the coastal zone, which includes the main trade centres, the staple foods are maize, cassava, plantains, palm oil, coconut and rice, and beef, mutton and pork. By far the most important animal food in this area, however, is fish, of which numerous varieties are available.

Production by Non-Africans.

There have been few plantation ventures in the Gold Coast and they have in general not been successful enough to encourage further development.

Native Industries and Pursuits.

It will be convenient to include in this chapter an account of the more important industries and pursuits in which the native population is engaged. As already stated, the majority of the inhabitants of the Gold Coast are farmers dependent for food on the produce of their farms. Sufficient food is grown for the family and the occasional stranger, but in the vicinity of large towns and mining areas farming on a larger scale is carried out for the sale of produce to the non-agricultural population.

The decline in the purchasing power of the people during the recent economic depression, from which the Colony has now happily recovered, resulted in a large extension of the areas under foodstuff cultivation. In the cocoa belt corn, cassava and yams are grown in much larger quantities than hitherto, while in the coastal region there has been an equally marked increase in the cultivation of cassava and other food-crops.

Digitized by Google

Around the larger towns there is a steadily increasing industry in the cultivation of European vegetables for local consumption. Crops are seasonal and pay well during the producing period but at times there are long periods of drought when crops cannot be produced.

There is a ready sale in all towns for locally-grown fruit and in general fair supplies are obtainable throughout the year, pineapples, avocado pears, bananas, oranges, grape-fruit, limes and pawpaws being the most common.

Kola-nuts, which are much in demand among the people of the Northern Territories, are harvested in large quantities from the forest areas in Ashanti, but their production in the Colony is being gradually displaced by that of cocoa. Formerly kola nuts were head-loaded or carried by donkeys to the principal markets in the Northern Territories but now they are transported by motor lorries from Kumasi and other collecting centres in Ashanti to Bawku, Lawra and other frontier towns where they are disposed of to traders from the neighbouring French territories and Northern Nigeria. Journeys which formerly took weeks or even months can now be completed in two or three days. As a result the nuts, which quickly deteriorate, arrive at the markets in the north in a much better condition and fetch a higher price.

The individual who comes into Ashanti from the north to buy kola nuts usually brings fowls, shea butter, native blankets or other goods which he can offer in exchange for food and kola. The wholesale price of nuts has varied during the year from 3d. to 6d. per 100 in Kumasi, depending upon size and season. White nuts realise a much better price than red.

In the principal kola areas in Ashanti it is in most cases the owner himself who picks and prepares the nuts for sale but occasionally he may let his trees to another who will do this work for one-half of the crop.

Palm oil is to be seen in most markets and is retailed at about 6d. per pint bottle. The heavy import duties imposed on spirits, and the restrictions placed on their sale within the Gold Coast, have contributed to a considerable increase in the making of palm-wine. The tapping of oil palms for wine unfortunately destroys the trees and thus an important source of wealth is being dissipated. The palm-wine maker will frequently have as many as 30 trees under treatment at the same time and will make approximately 5s. a day by selling wholesale the wine produced, which is later sold, retail, at about 2d. a pint, although the price varies considerably according to the locality.

A trade also exists in the manufacture and sale of a spirit, known in Accra as "Akpeteshi" (*anglice*, "surreptitiously" or "round the corner") which is distilled from palm-wine and other ingredients by means of a primitive apparatus consisting of two empty kerosene tins and a spiral of copper tubing. Needless to say, this enterprise is illicit and punishable by heavy penalties.

Digitized by Google

Fresh coconuts are sold in most villages along the coastal areas and for some distance inland. The grower sells the nuts at about four or five for 3d. and the retailer gets 1d. each for them. The nuts are also used for making coconut oil for culinary purposes.

Rice is grown wherever suitable conditions obtain. In the Esiama district farmers bring the paddy to the Government rice mill where it is hulled and sold on their behalf to wholesale distributors and employers of labour. The entire production of the mill is consumed in the country.

Groundnut cultivation is fairly general in the Gold Coast, small patches of the crop being grown for local consumption all over the country. In Togoland, Nzima, and northern Ashanti, the crop is grown more extensively to supply the large markets of Accra, Sekondi and Kumasi. A limited quantity of groundnut oil is prepared locally but there is no export either of oil or of groundnuts.

In the coastal zone the cultivation is mainly by women, but in northern Ashanti outside the forest belt, men, especially settlers from the Northern Territories, grow the crop. In the latter area the former sells the unshelled nuts to women at from £5 16s. to £6 10s. per ton. The women decorticate the nuts, convey them to Kumasi and sell them to petty dealers in measures of about 1½lb. at prices ranging from £15 to £19 per ton. The petty dealer retails the nuts in cigarette tin measures at £25 to £30 per ton.

The foregoing paragraphs have been devoted to food-crops but the most important agricultural product of the country is of course, cocoa. It is estimated that there are one million acres under cocoa in the Gold Coast with 400 trees to the acre and that the labour expended on its production amounts to one-sixth of the total labour potentiality of the country.

In the cocoa-growing areas almost every member of the community has his plantation, the main preoccupation is the cocoa industry and the income of the family is dependent on the price and quantity of the crop. An acre—the size of the average farm—will yield about nine loads of 60 lb. each, and last year the price paid to the grower was about £1 a load.

Originally the whole of this considerable industry—it is estimated that the total production for the financial year was 292,306 tons—could have been attributed to the work or personal proprietors or small holders, but to-day this is no longer the case. The increasing demand for cocoa has brought about the introduction of hired labour, of which a considerable immigrant force from the non-cocoa growing parts of the Gold Coast and from outside finds employment in the production of the crop and in its transport to road and rail head. There are no data available at present to show the proportion of the whole crop produced by the working small holder.

Digitized by Google

The handling of a large crop harvested from a great number of separately-owned and widely-scattered plantations has brought into being a large force of middlemen. This excessive employment of middlemen is one of the disadvantages and probably the most uneconomical feature of small holdings. It is being combated by the formation of co-operative societies of farmers, of which there are now in existence 398 with 9,663 members.

The outstanding feature of the year has been the very sharp rise in the price of cocoa, which soared almost to "boom" proportions. Cocoa has been so extremely profitable that very little, if any, has been left unharvested, even in remote areas. In some areas labourers who are employed to weed, pick and prepare the crop, and convey it to the farmer's house are paid in kind, receiving one-third of the produce for this service.

Next in importance to agriculture in the life of the people come hunting and fishing. In spite of the progress in the opening up of the country and of the increase in areas under cultivation game is found in many districts, and in the undeveloped areas every village has its quota of professional hunters who gain their livehood from the chase. Hunters are usually armed with flintlock guns and in addition employ ingenious kinds of traps. The meat obtained is sold or bartered locally at high prices.

A considerable section of the community living in the coastal areas and on the banks of the large rivers is employed in fishing. Some of the catch is consumed immediately or sold fresh in the local markets, and the remainder is cured by exposure to the sun or by smoking in an oven. An appreciable industry exists in the sale of the cured product, which is in great demand and which, peddled by itinerant vendors, reaches the remotest parts of the country. Niger perch are brought from the north and a regular transport service exists between Mopti and Kumasi to meet the demands of this trade.

An industry also exists in certain parts of the forest country in the collection and sale of snails which are carefully preserved and may be caught only during specified periods of the year. There are heavy penalties for taking them at any other time. Whole villages emigrate to the forest for the entire season. Some of the catch is consumed locally but most of it is smoked and sold on skewers in the large markets. So prepared, they fetch about ¾d. each. A family may earn as much as £10 in this way in a good season.

A considerable trade exists in the supplying of live-stock from the Northern Territories to the meat markets of Ashanti and the Colony. At present the supply from the Northern Territories is insufficient to meet the demand and consequently much stock is imported from French territory. As is shown, however, in the Animal Health section of this chapter, great strides have been made in stock-raising in the Northern Territories and it is hoped that the necessity for importing live-stock will eventually disappear.

Digitized by Google

Pottery is made in many parts of the country, the work being done mostly by women. The type of pot usually depends on the kind of clay available ; for example, at Teshi, in the Accra district, cooking pans are made, while at Nasia in the Northern Territories, water pots are produced. In addition to domestic utensils much ornamental pottery is also manufactured.

Another village industry is the weaving and dyeing of cloth from local cotton and vegetable dyes. The well-known Ashanti cloths are, however, now usually woven from imported yarn. In some parts of Ashanti and the Western Province of the Colony cloth is made by beating the inner bark of a certain kind of tree, just as bark-cloth is made in Uganda.

At Bawku in the Northern Territories rope and string are made from hibiscus bark and sisal fibre. A rope-maker earns about five shillings a week.

In addition to the above handicrafts, almost every village has its blacksmith, sawyer and carpenter whose services are always in demand at good wages. Canoe-making, the manufacture of wooden stools and ornamental woodcarving are also carried on in many localities.

A decreasing trade exists in the extraction of salt from the lagoons around Ada for sale in the Northern Territories. The salt is conveyed up the Volta by canoes which then return loaded with shea butter.

In the urban areas the population earns its livelihood in trade, for which the African has a particular aptitude, and by the exercise of various professions. Government service provides employment for many, and in addition there are in practice numbers of African doctors, lawyers and other professional men. The number of skilled craftsmen is increasing, and reliable tailors, boot-makers, carpenters, goldsmiths and motor mechanics are becoming common.

Road transport gives employment to many. The lorry owner can always rely on his family and his friends for shelter and sustenance, and his clothing needs can be reduced to a minute sum. He does not necessarily work every day ; he is almost entirely free from overhead charges, and, except for the payment of the instalments on his lorries and of his running charges, he has little need for money. Consequently road transport is comparatively cheap.

Animal Health.

Pong-Tamale in the Northern Territories is the headquarters of the Department of Animal Health, where there is an up-to-date laboratory, a stock improvement and experimental farm and a centre for training Africans in veterinary work.

Cattle plague (rinderpest) still appears in natural outbreaks among young unimmunised cattle and during the year several isolated foci occurred. So susceptible are the small unhumped West

Digitized by Google

African Shorthorn cattle of the Gold Coast to this disease that it has been found impossible to guarantee the security of the Tamale reserve, where twenty thousand unimmunised cattle were kept for laboratory purposes in connection with the manufacture of anti-rinderpest serum. It has now been necessary permanently to immunise these cattle and the present position is that all the cattle of the Gold Coast, save those which are two years old or younger, are permanently immune to rinderpest. The method of immunisation is by the simultaneous inoculation of virulent rinderpest blood and anti-serum, preceded by a small dose of anti-rinderpest vaccine a week before. Numerous tests have shown this immunity to be permanent in all cases. The usual immunisation of young cattle was carried out during the year but was handicapped by the drain on laboratory products resulting from the unexpected immunisation of the cattle of the Tamale reserve; in consequence, there was a shortage of vaccine and the mortality rate rose, although not to a malign extent, the previous ratio having been very small. Rinderpest has been rampant in the neighbouring French colonies and appeared often among imported trade cattle at the frontier quarantine stations.

Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia, which, prior to the anti-rinderpest immunisation scheme, was masked by that killing disease, has been prevalent. There were a number of outbreaks but these were reported so quickly by the people and dealt with so promptly by veterinary staff that only one, which recurred in Kumasi, caused heavy mortality. These scattered frequent foci of pleuro-pneumonia, occurring all over the Northern Territories, made heavy demands on the professional staff, who were called upon to travel long distances and to undertake heavy work in elimination. Fortunately, the department's laboratory has been able to produce large quantities of a thoroughly efficient vaccine, which can be inoculated subcutaneously in young cultures and an immunity is thus quickly established among vaccinated cattle. Over thirty thousand cattle received vaccine in this way and among these there was only one local reaction to the vaccine and this did not incommode the animal affected. Pleuro-pneumonia vaccination has been made a routine at all immunisation camps and in addition to anti-rinderpest treatment, the cattle receive pleuro-pneumonia vaccine, which immunises for at least one year. The production of this efficient vaccine is a most fortunate circumstance, considering the non-success in other colonies and the increasing incidence of pleuro-pneumonia in the Gold Coast.

The serious outbreak of rabies reported last year has at last been brought under control by the production at Pong-Tamale laboratory of an efficient preventive vaccine for dogs. This vaccine, which is produced from the brains of infected sheep, has been used throughout the colony and gives a satisfactory immunity for approximately one year. In addition, the sanitary authorities in large towns have slaughtered large numbers of stray dogs.

Digitized by Google

This panzootic, which began in early 1935, is the worst and most widespread outbreak of rabies ever reported in the Gold Coast. Infected dogs, which in several cases were the cause of human deaths, have been found in almost every part of the country, from the extreme northern frontier to the towns of the coastal plain, where the disease was most intense.

The year's research brought further knowledge of the bionomics of the tsetse-fly and good progress was made with the work of eradication. The large Pong-Tamale clearing scheme has been successful in driving the flies out of a vast area, while treatment on the same lines has made the populous town of Yendi and its environs tsetse-free. The small clearings at river crossings have been shown to disturb the intimate fly-man contact in the dry season but are entered freely by tsetse in the wet season; however, the former result is important as concentrations of fly at river crossings and watering-places in the dry season represent the greatest danger to human beings. The question of the incidence of trypanosomiasis has to be considered carefully in connection with animal husbandry, as many improved types of live-stock are susceptible to trypanosomiasis while indigenous animals are often resistant only to their own local strain of trypanosome and not to a strain of another and perhaps not distant locality.

Animal Husbandry.

Considerable preliminary progress has been made in the improvement of live-stock, particularly cattle. A growing and more general interest in this important basic industry has been evinced not by owners alone, but also by members of the public and, in particular, by the Native Administrations in the Northern Territories. The fact that these Administrations are alive to the value of stock improvement is shown by their action in making provision for expenditure under this head in 1937–38. The advent of a good system of Native Administration has benefited this basic industry and the local knowledge of the native functionaries has in many cases proved most useful. The Native Administration farm scheme is about to be considerably extended and in a few years there will be sufficient of these farms throughout the stock-rearing areas to justify the placing of an adequate bull at each centre. The problem created by the serious bull shortage which last year was reported to be causing deterioration among the herds in some districts has been tackled as energetically as possible. More improved bulls—the total was as high as seventy—were issued from the main Government farm at Pong-Tamale than ever before, while several of the Native Administration farms issued good bulls for the first time. Numbers of useful-looking young bulls were also purchased by Government and by the Native Administrations for eventual issue throughout the country and most of these latter bulls will be available for distribution in 1937–38. When the

Digitized by Google

cattle of Western Dagomba were immunised against rinderpest for the first time this year at Naboggo Camp, the calf mortality was extraordinarily high. This was not due to the treatment, as these animals were merely vaccinated, the process employed causing no reaction and giving only a temporary immunity. The Veterinary Officer reports that numbers died of general weakness resulting from being sired by young, immature, weed bulls. In many cases, excellent strong cows were seen with weedy calves sired by such bulls. As it appears impossible to persuade the individual owner to retain a good or even a mature bull of any kind for stud purposes, the solution must be an adequate supply of communally-owned bulls. With the development of the present scheme of work, the fulfilment of this aim is a matter of time only.

Increased local consumption in the Ivory Coast and elsewhere led to a further falling off in the importation of trade live-stock from French West Africa overland. A useful addition to the colony's meat supply, which is so seriously short, has been secured from the Compagnie Pastorale of the French Cameroons, which is now landing up to three hundred prime bullocks at Accra each month ; these are being absorbed avidly but the scarcity of fresh meat is so great that the prices of bullocks have not been lowered as a result of this sudden increase in the Accra supply. The Compagnie Pastorale produces quite the best meat in West Africa as it is possible to breed grade cattle of a cross between the Montbeliard and the best type of Zebu in the tsetse-free high altitudes of the French Cameroons.

Local live-stock trade has increased rapidly and in Builsa it was found that the owners were selling large numbers of good ewes for the slaughter markets of the South ; representations of the harm of this policy to the Builsa Native Administration resulted in an immediate order of prohibition. There are still far too many immature animals of all kinds being sold for slaughter and export to the South from the Northern Territories ; it is hoped that the Native Administrations will shortly prohibit this.

Water shortage, in some places amounting almost to drought, handicaps the live-stock industry both in the Northern Territories and in the coastal plains of the Eastern Province. In certain areas, such as the Western Dagomba and Ada districts, cattle drink only twice or thrice a week in the dry season. This problem is now receiving attention, a special Water Supply Section of the Geological Survey Department having been recently created to deal with it.

Pong-Tamale Live-Stock Farm.

This is the central Government live-stock farm, from which the policy of stock improvement is controlled and directed, and where experiments are carried out. From this farm, good bulls are issued to Native Administration farms and thence to the village

Digitized by Google

herds. Cattle improvement is being conducted by the production of two types of improved sire—the N'Dama, an unhumped breed indigenous to the Fouta Djalon, which has a great breed resistance to trypanosomiasis and thus combines the two valuable factors of improved conformation and increased resistance to trypanosomiasis in its transmission ; and improved types of hardy Zebus, which are suitable for areas which have a maximum degree of tsetse infection and little malign trypanosomiasis. Both these variations increase the size and improve the conformation of the local beast, which, owing to the presence of a high proportion of the Dwarf Shorthorn in its genetical make-up, is often too small. Improved young bulls of the local type are bought from herds, to which Pong-Tamale bulls have been supplied, brought up at the farm and eventually issued. This procedure has increased the annual bull supply considerably.

Pigs of the Yorkshire breed and Leghorn and Rhode Island Red poultry are bred in numbers and are available for sale or issue throughout the colony. The demand is great and usually exceeds the supply. Improved pigs do well in the coastal plains but reports from the forest suggest an increased incidence of porcine trypanosomiasis of a bad type.

The farm at Pong–Tamale represents a focus of rural cultural improvement with its superior live-stock, its advanced housing, its large-scale cultivation with horses and oxen and its general progressive policy which is controlled so that it does not represent an ideal unattainable by the African. Since the inception of the progressive Native Administrations, a much greater interest is being taken in these advanced projects by the leading Africans and the Native Administration authorities have been making every attempt to bring their own farms up to the Pong–Tamale standard.

The number of livestock imported through the frontier quarantine stations during the last four years was :—

	1933–34.	1934–35.	1935–36.	1936–37.
Cattle	51,778	47,932	45,244	43,340
Sheep and goats	47,589	44,887	46,132	67,697
Horses	608	708	512	608

The revenue collected from import fees during the year was £16,082 17s.

Forestry.

Two main types of vegetation occur in the Gold Coast, " closed forest ", which covers most of the Colony, Ashanti and a small part of Togoland under British Mandate, and " savannah forest," occupying the rest of the country.

The area under closed forest, i.e. subject to the influence of this vegetational type, is some 25,000 square miles but was at one time considerably greater. Deforestation on its outskirts, however, followed by the establishment of grass and the inevitable

Digitized by Google

series of annual fires, has resulted in shrinkage on the north, east and south. This deforestation has been brought about by the universal practice of shifting cultivation, in consequence of which not only is savannah encroaching on closed forest along their common border but the closed forest zone is itself honeycombed with clearings, in some of which savannah is now established. The rate of deforestation is estimated at 300 square miles a year and the problem of replacing shifting cultivation by some more permanent, less wasteful system of agriculture is of vital import to the country.

The forest policy of the Government aims at the conservation of a sufficient area of forest, suitably situated, for the purposes of maintaining climatic conditions favourable to the growth of the principal agricultural crops of the country, of ensuring water supplies, of controlling erosion, of utilising forest products to the best advantage of the people and of preserving a sufficient supply of these products for the use of future generations. In putting this policy into practice special stress is laid on the protection of forests situated in key positions in the closed forest zone and the establishment of shelterbelts. This dual object is achieved by the creation of forest reserves.

The native authorities are invariably given the opportunity of constituting and administering forest reserves, in which case the Forestry Department acts in a purely advisory capacity. Should a native authority, however, either fail to constitute a reserve, or having done so, fail to administer it satisfactorily, the reserve is brought under the Forests Ordinance and Government, through the Forestry Department, administers it for the benefit of the owners. In every case the ownership of the land remains unaltered; Government's part is one of trusteeship.

The principal dangers menacing the savannah forest zone are actual or threatened shortages of fuelwood and grazing lands and particular attention is being devoted to these problems. Where they occur together, the creation of reserves for the sole purpose of overcoming them is advocated, but in localities where fuelwood alone is in demand a remedy is found in the formation of short-rotation plantations of quick-growing exotics. Consideration is also given to the requirements of the mining industry in the savannah zone.

The utilisation of the timber assets of the country continues to receive attention. The permanent source of supply consists of forest reserves to which may be added such trees as are spared in the course of farming operations. From this must be met an annual domestic demand for some 120 million cubic feet of fuelwood and two million cubic feet of lumber plus a local industrial demand for some 20 million cubic feet and such timber as is exported. At present the supply can still more than satisfy the internal demands and leave an exportable surplus in the neighbourhood of some three

Digitized by Google

million cubic feet per annum. Such a position cannot be maintained, however, unless there is some alteration in the farming methods of the people, who unfortunately show a growing tendency to "clear fell" an area prior to farming instead of adhering to the older system of leaving a number of shade trees in each farm. The formation of forest reserves is not in itself sufficient; it is necessary that the people should appreciate the intrinsic value of their forests and, consequently, understand the need for protecting immature trees of valuable timber-producing species throughout the whole country. The production of better timber, the reduction of exploitation costs and a greater appreciation of the value of the forest, are the aims of the Forestry Department. As the ownership, both of the land and of the produce of it is vested in the people, propaganda, education and persuasion are the only methods available.

The Concessions Ordinance provides the necessary authority for the control of excessive exploitation or clearing on an unnecessarily large scale. This authority is so exercised as to give the forest, after the extraction of the necessary timber and fuel-wood, every chance of reverting to its original state. If necessary, reafforestation may be required from the holders of concessions.

The timber export industry did not lose ground during the year. The volume shipped was slightly less than in the previous year, but prices were fully maintained. Figures for the past five years are appended.* The United Kingdom remains the most important market for Gold Coast timbers, of which it absorbed a larger proportion than during the previous year. There was a marked drop in exports to the United States of America, but France took a small quantity for the first time in five years.

The small shipper still fails to appreciate the fact that quality is the controlling factor on the overseas market and, in consequence, still fails to receive the returns he could so easily obtain by the exercise of a little more care in production. Encouragement and advice to this end continue to be given with the hope of eventually attaining a minimum standard of product for export. The association of cutters formed in the Eastern Province of the Colony did not function during the year.

Efforts to extend the use of woods other than mahogany continue to meet with indifferent success. There are at least 200 timber-producing species in the Gold Coast and all could undoubtedly be put to one use or another. Consumers, however, prefer to utilise timbers of proved value only and are chary of adopting new and unproved woods. It is hoped that in time demonstrations of the worth of these woods may overcome this reluctance and, to this end, a trial shipment of selected and graded lumber intended for a specific purpose was made during the year.

*Page 36.

Digitized by Google

Minor forest products figure largely in the daily lives of the people and are found, in greater or lesser degree, in the markets of the the Gold Coast. Industries using such products are coming into greater prominence and the African Industries Bureau, which has been formed with the object of putting commercial users into touch with the producers, organised during the year a highly successful exhibition and continues to make gratifying headway.

Minerals.

Gold.

During the year under review the gold won amounted to 461,621 fine ounces having a value (at par) of £1,960,967 as compared with 367,819 fine ounces valued at £1,562,495 in the previous year, showing an increase of 93,802 fine ounces and £398,472 respectively.

The year's output of gold constitutes a record in the history of the Colony. This marked improvement in production was due to an all-round increase in output, the most notable advances being made by Ariston Gold Mines (1929) Limited, with an increase of over 18,000 ounces, Bibiani (1927) Limited, with over 13,000 ounces, and Ashanti Goldfields Corporation with nearly 10,000 fine ounces. Konongo Gold Mines Limited and Marlu Gold Mining Areas Limited were also prominent with initial productions of over 16,000 and 15,000 ounces respectively.

At the end of the year ten companies were producing gold from lode mines (as compared with nine in the previous year) and one company from alluvial operations.

After working for only eight months Obuom Gold Mines Limited closed down in August, 1936, but Konongo Gold Mines Limited in July, 1936 and Marlu Gold Mining Areas Limited in November, 1936, entered the producing class during the year, leaving a total of nine mines still in the development stage.

The year saw a significant decline in the number of new companies entering the Colony and the tendency is clearly for control of the smaller concerns to be acquired by a few powerful houses, with the result that the industry in general is taking on an appearance of greater stability.

The development of alluvial operations continued during the year and unusually keen interest was shown in the mineral possibilities of the Northern Territories. The Gold Coast Selection Trust Limited completed the boring of the Lower and Upper Ancobra and as a result of this work a new company, the Bremang Gold Dredging Company, Limited, took over the concessions and is preparing for production. This company proposes to install forthwith two electrically driven dredges capable of treating 320,000 cubic yards per month and an electrical generating station. Two further dredges are to be brought out at a later date.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

1936.	Mahogany.		Other kinds.	
	C. ft.	£	C. ft.	£
	644,787	70,970	26,015	4,632
	76,199	29,708	1,642	188
	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—
	969	105	—	—
	—	—	—	—
	721,955	100,783	27,657	4,820

printed cottons show a decrease of [illegible] square yards as compared with 1935, the value for 1936 shows an increase of £6,516.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

Imports.

The value of all imports for the year was £11,656,719, being £3,699,939, or 46·5 per cent, more than the corresponding value in 1935.

The following table shows the value of imports for the quinquennium 1932–1936 arranged on a tariff basis :—

Head of Imports.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
1.—COMMERCIAL.	£	£	£	£	£
Ad valorem	2,597,809	1,468,502	931,371	1,554,391	1,833,163
Specific—other than wines, spirits, malt liquors, cider and perry	1,357,058	2,438,967	1,984,647	3,421,840	3,828,318
Specific—wines, spirits, malt liquors, cider and perry	186,256	132,076	116,784	169,606	205,717
Free goods (excluding specie and currency notes)	930,679	872,015	1,120,608	1,871,167	2,097,151
Specie and currency notes	253,810	446,870	458,331	580,845	3,125,830
2.—GOVERNMENT STORES.					
Government stores (excluding specie and currency notes)	279,607	184,798	237,059	358,931	566,540
Specie and currency notes	—	126	—	—	—
Total	5,605,219	5,543,354	4,848,800	7,956,780	11,656,719

TEXTILES.

Cotton Manufactures.—(*a*) The quantity of *cotton piece goods* including velveteen imported in 1936, viz. 65,842,822 square yards, was the largest ever recorded and in this connection it should be noted that :—

(i) 1936 was the best trade year in the Gold Coast since 1928, and

(ii) the people of the Gold Coast, taken as a whole, attach greater importance to the quality than to the price of cotton piece goods, a fact which is of particular significance in the case of *printed cottons*, which in 1936 represented 57·6 per cent of the total imports of cotton piece goods. Thus, although imports of *printed cottons* show a decrease of 1,569,430 square yards as compared with 1935, the value for 1936 shows an increase of £6,516.

Digitized by Google

(*b*) The quantity of cotton piece goods imported from the United Kingdom in 1936 was almost twice as great as that in 1934. The following statement shows the percentage of the total imports of cotton piece goods supplied by the United Kingdom during the past five years :—

Cotton Piece Goods.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Bleached	93	64	40	68	80
Dyed	92	87	70	71	69
Coloured	95	67	57	73	61
Grey	95	55	37	62	17
Printed	85	78	80	80	69
Velveteen	82	64	66	68	59

(*c*) The following statements show each country's percentage share of the total imports of (*a*) cotton piece goods, (*b*) cotton towels, and (*c*) artificial silk piece goods for the years 1934 to 1936 :—

(*a*)

Country of Origin.	Cotton Manufactures. Piece Goods (including Velveteen and Headkerchiefs in singles).		
	1934.	1935.	1936.
United Kingdom	69·9	75·8	65·2
British India	0·1	0·2	0·4
Nigeria	2·2	2·2	2·6
Belgium	0·2	0·1	0·2
China	—	—	4·9
Germany	0·3	2·1	3·2
Holland	6·6	9·3	15·1
Italy	0·7	3·6	5·0
Japan	6·4	2·0	1·9
Soviet Russia	13·2	3·7	0·5
Switzerland	0·3	0·5	0·9
Other countries	0·1	0·5	0·1
Total	100	100	100

(*b*)

Country of Origin.	Cotton Towels.		
	1934.	1935.	1936.
United Kingdom	86·2	98·8	97·3
Japan	13·6	0·7	1·2
Other countries	0·2	0·5	1·5
Total	100	100	100

Digitized by Google

(*c*)

Country of Origin.	Artificial Silk Piece Goods (including Headkerchiefs in singles).		
	1934.	1935.	1936.
United Kingdom	37·7	29·1	28·8
Czecho-Slovakia	10·9	27·8	33·7
France	2·5	6·8	9·5
Germany	1·4	3·9	8·9
Italy	4·1	15·3	7·8
Japan	42·2	16·6	9·0
Other countries	1·2	0·5	2·3
Total	100	100	100

Apparel.—(*a*) A feature in the trade in apparel since 1935 has been the popularity of singlets and "Sports" shirts. The number of shirts imported in 1936 was 449,835, almost treble the number imported in 1934. The quantity of cardigans, jerseys, and pullovers imported in 1936 exceeded the quantity imported in 1935 by 245 per cent, and imports of singlets rose from 507,989 in 1935 to 1,540,949 in 1936, an increase of 203 per cent.

(*b*) As an indication of the effect of the additional duties imposed in June, 1934, on (1) cardigans, jerseys, and pullovers, (2) shirts, and (3) singlets *manufactured in Japan*, the following particulars of the percentage shares of the import trade in these articles enjoyed by the various countries may be of interest.

Country of Origin.	Article.								
	Cardigans, Jerseys, and Pullovers.			Shirts.			Singlets.		
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1934.	1935.	1936.
United Kingdom ...	22·4	82·7	74·5	46·3	87·1	74·2	8·6	26·5	11·9
British India	—	—	16·6	—	—	—	—	—	0·1
Hong Kong ...	—	—	—	0·2	0·2	11·3	—	19·3	54·5
China ...	—	—	—	0·1	0·1	0·2	4·0	1·2	3·8
Germany ...	0·6	6·4	4·3	2·2	1·0	2·3	0·1	9·5	0·7
Holland ...	—	—	—	—	—	0·6	—	5·2	3·8
Japan ...	74·9	4·5	3·2	50·1	6·9	4·2	87·1	34·7	21·7
Poland ...	—	5·5	1·1	0·2	2·7	4·2	—	—	—
Other countries	2·1	0·9	0·3	0·9	2·0	3·0	0·2	3·6	3·5
Total ...	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Digitized by Google

Particulars of the principal makes of motor cars and lorries imported into the Gold Coast in 1936 are given hereunder.

Motor Cars.				Motor Lorries.			
Make.	New.	Second hand.	Total.	Make.	New.	Second hand.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.		No.	No.	No.
Ford	58	42	100	Chervolet ...	717	—	717
Chevrolet ...	66	6	72	International	270	—	270
Morris	27	28	55	Dodge ...	202	—	202
Austin	14	19	33	Ford ...	139	—	139
Opel	26	4	30	Bedford ...	129	—	129
Vauxhall ...	17	13	30	Other kinds	41	—	41
Other kinds ...	32	54	86				
Total ...	240	166	406	Total ...	1,498	—	1,498

Of the new motor cars 90 were manufactured in the United States of America, 83 in the United Kingdom, 41 in Canada, and 26 in Germany.

Of the new motor lorries 1,203 came from the United States of America, 149 from the United Kingdom, 137 from Canada and 9 from Germany.

Motor Cycles and Bicycles.—(*a*) Of 42 motor cycles imported 38 came from the United Kingdom.

(*b*) Two thousand nine hundred and fifty-six bicycles were imported, of which the United Kingdom supplied 2,512, Japan 247, and Germany 176. (In 1935 Japan supplied 504.)

(*c*) The average landed cost of the British bicycle was £4 3s. 10d., that of a Japanese bicycle being £1 10s. 6d.

General Course of Prices.

The following table shows the movements of the average annual landed cost per statistical unit of certain imported articles during the last six years, the corresponding cost for the year 1930 being taken as 100 :—

Digitized by Google

Articles.	Year.					
	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	193 6.
Biscuits, bread and cakes :—						
Pilot or ships	93	102	90	80	86	89
Other kinds	111	112	95	86	85	75
Cement	89	91	83	73	70	71
Cotton manufactures :—						
Bleached	78	71	63	57	64	67
Dyed	74	69	68	65	71	68
Coloured	70	65	62	60	65	72
Grey	80	76	71	73	80	74
Printed	79	75	69	62	68	70
Sewing	88	82	67	56	50	69
Yarn	83	87	76	79	78	77
Fish of all kinds :—						
Canned or preserved in jars or bottles	99	104	94	97	94	87
Dried, salted, smoked or pickled not in tins, jars, or bottles ...	94	86	67	65	70	73
Rice	76	77	69	53	58	56
Flour (wheaten)	78	86	76	74	78	80
Matches	100	111	111	111	111	113
Meats :—						
Beef and pork, pickled or salted	88	85	82	76	78	86
Canned or bottled	88	76	59	53	52	56
Corrugated iron sheets	82	77	84	82	84	88
Milk	89	74	76	71	65	56
Kerosene	86	109	111	70	70	75
Petrol	103	116	105	69	69	73
Salt, other kinds	100	108	108	100	91	91
Soap, other kinds	89	90	79	72	71	74
Sugar (refined)	82	84	80	70	67	69
Tobacco :—						
Unmanufactured	96	108	87	75	83	85
Cigars	114	123	136	144	148	140
Cigarettes	102	104	103	96	92	71
Wood and timber :—						
Lumber, sawn, or hewn, undressed	95	106	124	110	118	123
Lumber, sawn, or hewn, wholly or partly dressed	122	99	135	96	93	101

Exports.

The total value of the exports (including re-exports) in 1936 was £12,636,899. In 1935 the corresponding value was £9,971,535.

Digitized by Google

Particulars of the value of the exports (including re-exports) for each of the last five years are given hereunder.

Classes.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£	£
Products of the Gold Coast (excluding minerals and precious stones) ...	5,664,648	5,076,234	4,178,025	5,434,434	7,980,326
Minerals and precious stones	2,353,805	2,717,823	3,660,529	3,793,791	4,247,794
Manufactures of the Gold Coast ...	3,250	5,806	10,969	12,669	11,832
Total *Domestic exports*	8,021,703	7,799,863	7,849,523	9,240,894	12,239,952
Re-exports (excluding specie and currency notes)	82,297	80,386	96,836	73,702	96,879
Specie and currency notes	244,879	168,235	171,097	656,939	300,068
Total *Re-exports* ...	327,176	248,621	267,933	730,641	396,947
Grand Total ...	8,348,879	8,048,484	8,117,456	9,971,535	12,636,899

Digitized by Google

The following table gives particulars of the principal *domestic* products exported by sea and overland during the years 1935 and 1936.

Articles.	1935.		1936.		Difference.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Cocoa ... ... ton	268,890	5,203,959	311,151	7,659,743	+ 42,261	+ 2,455,784
Gold ... ... fine oz.	370,769	2,635,527	434,397	3,047,545	+ 63,628	+ 412,018
Diamonds ... ... carats	1,349,847	546,094	1,414,677	584,997	+ 64,830	+ 38,903
Manganese ore ... ... ton	398,718	612,170	411,024	612,930	+ 12,306	+ 760
Timber unmanufactured ... ... cubic ft.	1,092,773	109,792	951,260	105,657	— 141,513	— 4,135
Palm oil ... ... ton	410	6,768	499	6,187	+ 89	— 581
Palm kernels ... ... ton	6,492	43,244	11,346	107,196	+ 4,854	+ 63,952
Copra ... ... ton	1,448	10,972	2,541	25,942	+ 1,093	+ 14,970
Rubber ... ... lb.	652,444	14,028	964,836	24,048	+ 312,392	+ 10,020
Kola nuts ... ... cwt.	4,976	3,651	8,589	5,124	+ 3,613	+ 1,473
Hides (cattle) untanned ... ... cwt.	3,160	6,052	3,203	7,038	+ 43	+ 986
Hides and Skins :—						
Other kinds ... ... lb.	12,485	850	4,944	536	— 7,541	— 314
Lime juice and other lime products ... ... ton	1,687	24,749	1,835	22,247	+ 148	— 2,502

Digitized by Google

The index numbers shown hereunder are in respect of the average annual F.O.B. price per statistical unit, except in the case of diamonds, for which the average annual price is calculated on the actual sale value exclusive of duty. The average for 1930 is taken as 100 :—

Articles.	Year.					
	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Cocoa	62	65	57	48	53	67
Diamonds	65	83	84	41	53	54
Rubber	56	32	37	48	52	61
Manganese	80	124	69	72	78	76
Copra	66	66	59	39	50	66
Kola nuts	80	50	40	27	40	33
Palm kernels	74	68	60	45	52	73
Palm oil	59	61	42	42	68	62
Mahogany	92	119	113	99	93	103

Distribution of Trade.

The table below shows the trend of the aggregate external *sea-borne* trade of the Gold Coast for the years 1935 and 1936 respectively.

Countries.	Import trade per cent.		Export trade per cent.		Aggregate trade per cent.	
	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
United Kingdom ...	57·33	54·48	55·79	49·51	56·48	51·55
British West Africa ...	2·15	2·14	0·26	0·20	1·10	1·00
Other parts of the British Empire ...	5·03	4·06	2·67	2·80	3·72	3·32
Total British Empire	64·51	60·68	58·72	52·51	61·30	55·87
United States of America	10·27	10·03	15·91	23·39	13·41	17·90
Belgium	1·42	2·13	0·86	0·45	1·11	1·14
Czecho-Slovakia ...	2·25	2·56	—	—	1·00	1·05
France	1·12	1·06	0·83	0·30	0·96	0·61
Germany	5·76	6·98	13·00	13·46	9·78	10·79
Holland	3·39	4·97	5·80	6·11	4·72	5·64
Italy	1·47	1·18	1·83	0·52	1·67	0·80
Japan	3·14	3·59	0·03	0·02	1·41	1·49
Soviet Russia	0·58	0·10	0·01	—	0·26	0·04
Other foreign countries	6·09	6·72	3·01	3·24	4·38	4·67
Total Foreign Countries	35·49	39·32	41·28	47·49	38·70	44·13
Grand Total ...	100	100	100	100	100	100

Digitized by Google

The percentage shares of the import and export trade taken by the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Germany, Holland, France, and Japan, respectively, during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	United Kingdom.		United States of America.		Germany.		Holland.		France.		Japan.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
1932	59·72	46·88	13·47	20·55	7·27	17·46	5·62	9·15	1·68	1·03	1·33	—
1933	55·82	45·51	12·84	16·83	8·52	19·48	5·04	7·81	1·51	1·75	3·29	—
1934	57·10	56·79	11·59	15·33	4·78	13·66	2·71	5·16	1·46	1·90	3·23	—
1935	57·33	55·79	10·27	15·91	5·76	13·00	3·39	5·80	1·12	0·83	3·14	0·03
1936	54·48	49·51	10·03	23·39	6·98	13·46	4·97	6·11	1·06	0·30	3·59	0·02

Digitized by Google

Tables A (imports) and B (exports) give fuller details of the distribution of trade in 1936, and therein will be found the value and the percentage shares of the import, and the value and the percentage shares of the export, trade enjoyed by each of the principal countries which trade with the Gold Coast. In view, however, of the advance which the trade of Japan has made in recent years the detailed particulars given in the next paragraph may prove of interest.

Trade with Japan.

(*a*) Japan's import trade with the Gold Coast rose from £141,000 in 1934 to £305,000 in 1936.

(*b*) Japan sent to the Gold Coast increased quantities of hosiery, apparel (other kinds), cordage, sewing cotton, blankets, table cloths, bedsheets and pocket handkerchiefs, hats, caps and other headgear, canned fish, cutlery, electric torches and electric light bulbs, spectacles, buckets, basins and pails, earthenware and porcelain, glass and glassware, perfumery, toys and games, and umbrellas and parasols.

(*c*) The only export from the Gold Coast to Japan in 1936 was 100 tons of cocoa valued at £2,059.

Digitized by Google

The following table shows (1) the principal countries with which the external *sea-borne* trade of the Gold Coast was carried on during 1935 and 1936, and (2) the value of such import and export trade :—

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.		Total.	
	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	4,212,853	4,628,362	5,118,894	6,017,948	9,331,747	10,646,310
British West Africa	158,349	182,119	23,789	24,505	182,138	206,624
Other parts of the British Empire	369,556	345,181	244,550	340,631	614,106	685,812
Total British Empire	4,740,758	5,155,662	5,387,233	6,383,084	10,127,991	11,538,746
United Stated of America	754,806	852,480	1,460,195	2,843,609	2,215,001	3,696,089
Belgium	104,239	181,314	78,722	55,006	182,961	236,320
Czecho-Slovakia	165,461	217,115	—	—	165,461	217,115
France	82,382	90,236	76,379	36,019	158,761	126,255
Germany	423,400	592,721	1,192,275	1,636,111	1,615,675	2,228,832
Holland	248,875	422,150	531,802	743,470	780,677	1,165,620
Italy	107,822	100,490	167,637	63,607	275,459	164,097
Japan	230,512	304,940	2,700	2,198	233,212	307,138
Soviet Russia	42,804	8,678	927	—	43,731	8,678
Other foreign countries	447,461	570,767	277,020	393,130	724,481	963,897
Total Foreign Countries	2,607,762	3,340,891	3,787,657	5,773,150	6,395,419	9,114,041
Grand Total	7,348,520	8,496,553	9,174,890	12,156,234	16,523,410	20,652,787

Digitized by Google

Revenue collected by the Customs Department.

The following table shows in comparative form (1) the gross and the net Customs and excise revenue and (2) the amount of harbour and light dues collected by the Customs Department in 1935 and 1936 :—

Head of Revenue.	1935.	1936.	Increase.	Decrease.
1. CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.				
CUSTOMS.	£	£	£	£
Import Duties.				
Ad valorem	243,011	289,134	46,123	—
Specific—other than wines, spirits, malt liquors, cider and perry ...	1,305,868	1,520,144	214,276	—
Specific—wines, spirits, malt liquors, cider and perry ...	244,185	328,604	84,419	—
Export Duties.				
Cocoa	313,741	363,010	49,269	—
Mahogany, cedar and baku ...	4,442	3,941	—	601
Diamonds	34,541	36,750	2,209	—
Kola nuts	9,362	10,683	1,321	—
Gold	163,355	184,061	20,706	—
Miscellaneous.				
King's and Colonial Warehouse Rents	1,970	2,917	947	—
Firearms, etc., Warehouse Rents	362	397	35	—
Other Miscellaneous	5,508	7,033	1,525	—
Total Customs	2,326,345	2,746,574	420,830	610
Excise Duties.				
On beer	29,038	24,321	—	4,717
Miscellaneous.				
Licences, Brewers'	20	20	—	—
Total Customs and Excise ...	2,355,403	2,770,915	420,830	5,318
Duties drawn back, over-entered and abated	24,922	24,209	—	713
Total net receipts	2,330,481	2,746,706	420,830	4,605
2. HARBOUR AND LIGHT DUES.				
Accra Harbour Dues	27,491	32,689	5,198	—
Light Dues	7,286	7,740	454	—
Total Harbour and Light Dues	34,777	40,429	5,652	—

Customs Tariff (*summarised*).

The Customs Tariff of the Gold Coast is contained in three schedules as follows :—

A table of import duties
A table of exemptions
A table of export duties.

Digitized by Google

The following are the chief items appearing in the Table of Import Duties :—

Apparel :—	
Cardigans, jerseys and pullovers	4d. each, or 20 per cent *ad valorem*, whichever is the higher.
Shirts	6d. each, or 20 per cent *ad valorem*, whichever is the higher.
Singlets	2d. each, or 20 per cent *ad valorem*, whichever is the higher.
Socks and stockings	3d. per pair, or 20 per cent *ad valorem*, whichever is the higher.
Bags and sacks, measuring not less than 36 inches by 16 inches ordinarily imported for the packing and transport of West African produce	2d. each.
Beer and ale, stout and porter ...	2s. per imperial gallon.
Cotton manufactures :—	
Piece goods (including scarves).	
(i) Bleached } admitted as such by the Comptroller	¾d. per square yard.
(ii) Dyed }	1d. ,, ,, ,,
(iii) Coloured }	1d. ,, ,, ,,
(iv) Grey }	¾d. ,, ,, ,,
(v) Printed }	1¼d. ,, ,, ,,
Fents	6d. per lb.
Handkerchiefs, not in the piece, but excluding pocket handkerchiefs	1¼d. per square yard.
Towels	2d. ,, ,, ,,
Velveteen	3d. ,, ,, ,,
Yarn	3d. per lb.
Spirits :—	
Brandy, gin, rum, whisky, and other potable spirits	£1 13s. 6d. per imperial gallon of 50° per centum of pure alcohol by Tralles Alcoholometer.
Obscured spirits	£1 13s. 6d. per imperial gallon.
Perfumed spirits	£1 15s. per imperial gallon.

Digitized by Google

Wine :—	
Sparkling	12s. per imperial gallon.
Still	4s. or 9s. per imperial gallon according to strength.
Tobacco :—	
Unmanufactured	2s. 3d. per lb.
Manufactured :—	
Cigars	10s. per lb.
Cigarettes :—	
(i) Not exceeding 3 lb. net per thousand	2s. 6d. per 100.
(ii) Exceeding 3 lb. net per thousand	10s. per lb.
Other manufactured tobacco and snuff	6s. per lb.
Silk manufactures :—	
Noil cloth	1¼d. per square yard.
Oil :—	
Illuminating	8d. per imperial gallon at 80° Fahrenheit.
Lubricating	3d. per imperial gallon.
Motor spirit	10d. per imperial gallon at 80° Fahrenheit.
Silk (artificial) manufactures :—	
Piece goods (including scarves)	2½d. per square yard.
Handkerchiefs, not in the piece, but excluding pocket handkerchiefs	2½d. per square yard.
Newsprint	10 per cent *ad valorem*.

ADDITIONAL DUTIES ON ARTICLES OF JAPANESE ORIGIN.

Article.	*Rate of Additional Duty.*
Cement	3s. per 400 lb. (gross).
Corrugated iron sheets ...	£4 per ton.
Paints and colours	16s. per 100 lb.
Paint oils, polishes and varnishes	4s. per gallon.
Cardigans, jerseys and pullovers	1s. each.
Shirts	1s. 3d. each.
Singlets	3d. each.

All other articles not particularly enumerated in the table of import duties or particularly exempted in the table of exemptions are liable to an import duty of 20 per cent *ad valorem*.

The table of exemptions contains an over-riding list of articles which are exempt from import duty. This list includes *inter alia* all Government importations, machinery, printed literary matter,

Digitized by Google

passengers' baggage, school apparatus, certain instruments and tools, ice-chests and refrigerators, uniforms, coin and currency notes, medicines, roofing materials, patterns and samples, vehicles, fresh provisions imported in ships' refrigerators and mosquito nets.

In the table of export duties appear the following items :—

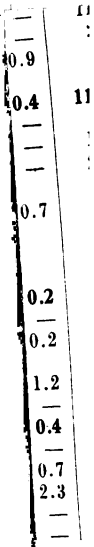
Cocoa	£1 3s. 4d. per ton.
Diamonds	6¼ per cent *ad valorem*.
Mahogany, cedar and baku ...	1d. per cubic foot.
Gold	15 per centum of the gold premium, as defined by Regulations No. 6 of 1933 under section 13 (1) of the Customs Tariff Ordinance.

All other articles, whether domestic products or re-exports, are exempt from export duty.

Excise Duty.

Excise duty on beer	1s. upon every gallon of worts of a specific gravity of 1055° and so in proportion for any difference in gravity.

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

—	11.2
—	2.2
0.9	1.7
0.4	**116.3**
—	1.3
—	19.6
—	21.2
0.7	74.2
0.2	**20.0**
—	7.3
0.2	10.3
1.2	2.4
—	5.1
0.4	**27.0**
—	14.7
0.7	12.3
2.3	18.5
—	1.6
—	0.2

Digitized by Google

Value of I

	Ho	
tage.	Value.	
	£	
.9	715.2	
.0	—	
—	—	
.9	715.2	

Digitized by Google

he Value of Exp

N.

	Holland.	
tage.	Value.	Perce
	£	
.9	715.2	
.0	—	
—	—	
.9	715.2	

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The rates of wages for manual labour vary between 6d. and 2s. a day for the unskilled labourer and from 2s. to 7s. for artisans and tradesmen. Higher rates are paid in certain cases to skilled craftsmen.

Wages in the principal occupations are approximately as follows :—

Occupations.	Average rates of wages.	Average hours worked.
Government Departments.		
AGRICULTURE.		
labourers	1s. 2d. a day ...	45 hours a week.
PUBLIC WORKS.		
labourers	7d. to 1s. 6d. a day	48 hours a week.
apprentices	1s. to 2s. a day	
artisans	3s. to 5s. a day	
RAILWAYS.		
labourers, cleaners, etc.	1s. to 2s. a day	
fitters, drivers, machinists, boiler-makers, etc. ...	2s. to 7s. a day	
Commercial.		
AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.		
unskilled labour ...	11d. a day ...	49 hours a week.
MINES.		
unskilled labourers	1s. to 1s. 9d. a day	48 hours a week.
apprentices and skilled tradesmen	1s. 9d. to 10s. a day	
DOMESTIC SERVANTS.		
cooks	£3 per month ...	usual domestic hours.
washermen	£1 per month	
stewards	£2 10s. per month	

Digitized by Google

All Government employees are entitled to free medical attendance. Government employees on a daily rate of pay who have been continuously employed for not less than three years are allowed leave of absence on full pay for a period not exceeding seven days per annum and, subject to the convenience of the department concerned, may, if they so desire, be granted seven consecutive days leave to enable them to visit their homes.

Conditions of employment are governed generally by the Master and Servant Ordinance, the Wages Regulation Ordinance, 1932, the Railways Ordinance, 1935, and the Regulations made under these three Ordinances.

The Department of Agriculture employs 26 women labourers at 7d. per day and 14 boy labourers at 6d. per day. They work roughly 48 hours a week and are mainly engaged upon light tasks such as cotton picking and " selfing."

The number of registered domestic servants is 5,259, including one woman.

The cost of living varies considerably in different parts of the country but tends to be higher in the coastal towns. The only index of the cost of living is the standard of the living wage. The cost of a labourer's food varies from approximately 3d. a day in the rural areas to 6d. a day in the large towns.

The cost of living for Europeans varies from £25 to £45 per month and may be higher, according to the tastes and the responsibilities of the individual concerned.

During the year under review the rates of wages for artisans in the principal occupations were generally unchanged, but those for unskilled labour rose in some parts of the country by as much as 25 per cent. The continued rapid development of the mining areas and the increase in the price paid for cocoa combined to produce a slight upward tendency in the cost of living among the African population.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION.

Education in the Gold Coast is voluntary and is mainly in the hands of Government and of various missionary bodies.

Non-Government schools are officially recognised as of two kinds, assisted and non-assisted. An assisted school is one which has attained a certain standard of efficiency and which receives a Government grant.

Grants are awarded on general efficiency and are calculated as a percentage of the expenditure on the salaries paid to teachers according to an approved minimum scale.

As education in the Colony and Ashanti is governed by one ordinance and education in the Northern Territories by another, a section of this chapter is devoted to each. Achimota College also forms the subject of a separate section.

(*a*) The Colony and Ashanti.

There are nineteen Government primary schools, fifteen in the Colony and four in Ashanti, with an enrolment of 4,087 boys and 1,373 girls and a total average attendance of 5,247. These schools are entirely supported from Government funds, and in each case the staff is wholly African.

The total number of teachers in Government service at the close of the year was 262, of whom 233 were employed in the primary schools and 29 in the technical and middle boarding schools.

The number of mission assisted schools in the Colony and Ashanti during 1936 was 363, and of the known non-assisted schools 312.

The assisted schools were distributed as follows :—

Ahmadiyya Movement	1
A. M. E. Zion Mission	7
Basel Mission	1
English Church Mission	19
Ewe Presbyterian Church	84
Methodist Mission	63
Presbyterian Church	110
Scottish Mission	2
Roman Catholic Missions :—	
Vicariate Apostolic of the Gold Coast	26
Vicariate Apostolic of the Lower Volta	34
Seventh Day Adventist	2
Undenominational	7
United Schools (Under the joint control of the Presbyterian Church and the Methodist Mission.)	7

Digitized by Google

In the primary schools the subjects of instruction include speaking, reading and writing in the vernacular and English, arithmetic, singing, the duties and rights of a citizen, drawing, nature study, hygiene, handwork, and for girls, domestic science. The form which the handwork takes depends on the locality. In the urban schools woodwork and simple metalwork are favoured, while in rural schools gardening, mat-weaving, basket-making, brush-making, net-making, etc., are taught. In girls' schools increasing provision is made for the teaching of domestic science and child-welfare. The reluctance formerly shown in certain districts to send girls to school is now dying out, and there is a growing demand for female education. Four new mission boarding schools for girls, each conducted by Europeans, have recently been opened. At present there are eighteen schools devoted entirely to the education of girls. In addition, girls attend the ordinary primary schools and, wherever possible, receive special instruction in needlework and in other domestic subjects.

Apart from Achimota College there are only two assisted secondary schools in the Colony, namely Mfantsipim of the Methodist Mission and Adisadel College of the English Church Mission. Both of these schools are at Cape Coast, They are partly boarding schools and partly day schools and they are always full. The curriculum is based mainly on the requirements of the Cambridge junior and school certificate examinations. The Roman Catholic Mission has opened a new secondary school in Cape Coast.

For technical education, which is entirely in the hands of the Government, there is an increasing demand. The Accra Technical School provides a four years' course (practical and theoretical) in engineering and woodwork. This is the only school of its kind in the Colony, and the demand for admission is very great. There are three middle boarding schools which provide an elementary education with a pre-vocational bias. In December, 1936 there were 189 pupils in residence at these schools, of whom 85 were being trained in woodwork, 29 in masonry and 75 in metalwork, The time devoted to literary subjects is two-thirds of the total time available for instruction. Especially promising pupils are given the opportunity of completing their training at the Government Technical School, Accra. The object of these schools is to provide a preliminary training for boys who desire to become skilled artisans, but, during this training, the development of character and of a sense of responsibility in the individual takes a prominent place.

A number of selected African youths who have passed the seventh standard examination at the primary schools are trained by the Transport Department as fitters and fitter-drivers. The training consists of a three years' course of instruction in the workshop in the repair of petrol and compression ignition engines and in general repairs to cars and lorries, followed by a course of instruction in driving.

Digitized by Google

That the results of this training have been satisfactory is proved by the fact that certain of these drivers, who have been entrusted with vehicles and four-wheeled trailers carrying six tons of freight, have successfully completed journeys of 500 miles or more without supervision by a European.

For the training of male teachers there are four training colleges in which a full four years' course is given. The number of teachers in training in these colleges at the end of 1936 was as follows :—

Achimota College	82
Akropong Training College	73
St, Augustine's Training College	72
Wesley College	83
Total	310

At Achimota College teachers are trained for Government and for the undenominational schools, and also for the schools of those missions which do not possess their own training colleges.

Akropong Training College, which is controlled by the Presbyterian Church of the Gold Coast, trains teachers for Presbyterian and Ewe Presbyterian schools.

St. Augustine's Training College which was previously situated at Amisano has been transferred to Cape Coast ; it trains teachers for the Roman Catholic Mission schools in the Colony and Ashanti.

At Wesley College, Kumasi, teachers are trained for the Methodist Mission schools.

For the training of women teachers the Roman Catholic Mission (Vicariate Apostolic of the Gold Coast) has established a new training college at Cape Coast.

Classes are held also at most of the mission girls' schools and at Achimota for the training of women-teachers.

At all the colleges training is free, but each student before being admitted signs a bond to teach for at least five years in a Government or assisted school. For the teachers trained at Achimota College Government at one time paid all fees but now the total fee for teacher-students is £33 per annum of which Government pays £30. Government also pays grants towards the upkeep of the mission training institutions. All training colleges, including that at Achimota, are inspected by a board of officers of the Education Department.

Games, especially association football, continue to be popular. Hockey is played regularly at some of the schools, but cricket is not so common, possibly on account of the expense of maintaining the necessary equipment ; it is however, encouraged in all Government schools. Girls are showing more interest in games. Hockey, tennis, net ball and badminton are played.

Digitized by Google

There is an inter-college athletic association which since 1926 has organised annual contests between teams representing the training colleges for men and the secondary schools. Seven teams entered for the contest held in 1936 and Achimota College, by securing the highest number of points, won the Aggrey Memorial Shield which, together with trophies for each event, is presented for annual competition.

In addition to the activities of the Education Department and of the missions and undenominational bodies, a number of Government departments, the Gold Coast Regiment and the Gold Coast Railway maintain schools to meet their special needs.

(*b*) The Northern Territories.

There are two Government boarding schools at Tamale, one being a junior school and the other a senior school which provides education in standards IV to VII for pupils coming from the junior school and from various native administration schools. The number of children in attendance at these two schools in 1936 was 236, of whom 28 were girls.

During the year under review the Government junior schools at Gambaga and Salaga were converted into native administration schools, the number of which has risen to six. These are distributed as follows: Bawku, Lawra, Wa, Gambaga, Sandema and Kpembe (previously Salaga Government school). The total number of pupils in these schools in 1936 was 371, of whom 23 were girls. The expenditure of the native administration schools is defrayed partly by Government and partly by the native administrations themselves.

There are four mission primary schools in receipt of Government assistance. Three of these are controlled by the White Fathers' Mission (Vicariate Apostolic of the Lower Volta). The total number of pupils in attendance at these schools in 1936 was 338, of whom 88 were girls.

In the primary schools particular attention is paid to craftwork which ordinarily includes raffia-work, mat-making, rope-making and rough carpentry. Sheepskins are dressed and dyed by local processes for use in leatherwork of various kinds. Cotton grown on the school farms is spun and woven and made into garments of the kind worn locally. Agriculture is taught in all schools. With the approval of the Health authorities and of the householders themselves improvements are effected in the local housing conditions. Among the 88 girls attending mission primary schools are included 32 who form a special class for instruction in spinning, weaving and sewing.

There is a veterinary school at Pong-Tamale for African students of whom at present there are 10 in training.

Digitized by Google

(c) Prince of Wales College and School, Achimota.

This institution aims at the provision of a continuous course of kindergarten, primary, secondary and university education for both boys and girls. It includes a training department for students who will become teachers.

The courses now available in the university section are as follows: University of London Arts, Science and Engineering (Intermediate and degree).

The enrolment in the various departments at the end of 1936 was as follows :—

Kindergarten	61
Lower primary	71
Upper primary	154
Secondary school	155
Commercial	14
Training College (boys)	82
Teacher Students (girls)	58
Domestic course	3
University	34
Special course	1
	633

Of the above 213 are girls.

On the 1st April, 1931 the college was placed under the control of a Council. By the Achimota College and School Ordinance, 1934, the Council is constituted as follows :—

(*a*) four members appointed annually by the Governor, such appointments being personal and by name ;
(*b*) six African members of whom four are elected by the Council and two by the Old Achimotans' Association ;
(*c*) one member annually elected by the Council to represent the missions ;
(*d*) three members of the staff, of whom one is an African, annually elected by members of the staff ;
(*e*) the Principal ; and
(*f*) the Director of Education.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides.

Both the Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements are represented in the Gold Coast, and there are at present 152 Rovers, 5,763 Scouts and 2,183 Wolf Cubs, while there are 47 Guiders, 370 Guides and 133 Brownies.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping and Harbours.

A mail and passenger service to and from the United Kingdom is maintained by vessels of Messrs. Elder Dempster Lines, Limited, which sail fortnightly from Liverpool and call at Takoradi and Accra. On the homeward voyage the vessels call at Plymouth before proceeding to Liverpool.

Regular passenger services between the Continent and Gold Coast ports are maintained by various foreign steamship lines, among which are the Holland-West Afrika Line, the Woermann Line and the Chargeurs Réunis.

Freight services from London, Liverpool, Hamburg, New York and certain Mediterranean ports are operated by vessels of the following lines: Elder Dempster Lines, Limited; United Africa Company, Limited; John Holt (Liverpool) Limited; Holland-West Afrika Line; Woermann Line; America-West Africa Line; Chargeurs Réunis; Fabre Fraissinet and Navigazione Libera Triestina.

The length of the voyage from the United Kingdom is from 13 to 14 days by mail steamer and from 20 to 25 days by cargo ship.

Takoradi Harbour.

The number of vessels using the port increased from 635 in 1935–36 to 661 in 1936–37.

The tonnages of cargo imported and exported were 228,060 and 565, 687 respectively as against 190,116 and 587,137 in 1935–36.

The number of passengers disembarking was 4,878 and embarking 3,898 compared with 4,385 and 3,369 respectively in 1935–36.

The principal working results were as follows:—

Total capital expenditure on the 31st March, 1937	£3,219,395
Gross receipts	206,069
Working expenditure	29,821
Net receipts	176,248
Gross expenditure	185,065
Surplus*	21,004
Percentage of working expenditure to gross receipts	14·47%
Percentage of net receipts to capital expenditure ...	5·47%

Buildings, etc.

Extensive repairs were carried out during the year on the Slipway and Roundhead of the Breakwater.

* Transferred to Takoradi Harbour Renewals Fund.

Digitized by Google

Deepening.

2,000 cubic yards of rock and mud were broken up and dredged.

Railway.

Mileage Operated.

The main line of 3′ 6″ gauge runs in a northerly direction from Takoradi to Kumasi in Ashanti and thence in a south-easterly direction to Accra, a total distance of 366 miles.

Particulars of the branch lines are as follows :—

Branch.	*Mileage.*
Sekondi–Takoradi Junction	3
Tarkwa–Prestea	18
Aboso–Cinnamon Bippo	4
Huni Valley–Kade	99
Accra–Weija	10

The Weija branch has a 2′ 6″ gauge.

The total mileage open for traffic at the close of the financial year 1936–37 was 500 miles.

Finance.

The principal working results were as follows :—

	£
Total capital expenditure on the 31st March, 1937	9,354,139
Gross revenue	1,113,603
Working expenditure	593,976
Net revenue	519,627
Gross expenditure	997,970
Surplus*	115,633
Percentage of working expenditure to gross receipts	53·34%
Percentage of net receipts to capital expenditure ...	5·56%

Traffic.

The number of passengers carried during the year was 3,537,050, an increase of 435,625 with a corresponding increase in revenue of £27,639 compared with the previous year.

The total tonnage of goods traffic, excluding live-stock, was 955,335, an increase of 43,626 tons with an increase of £77,776 in revenue compared with the year 1935–36.

* Transferred to Railway Renewals Fund.

Digitized by Google

The principal commodities carried were :—

Commodity.	*Tons carried.*	*Increase. (tons).*	*Decrease. (tons).*
Beer and wines	4,836	2,211	
Building materials	36,949	11,802	
Cocoa	140,110	9,557	
Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	10,464	3,228	
Corn, native	4,031	237	
Cotton goods	5,508	990	
Explosives	2,114	520	
Firewood	143,383	20,734	
Imported food staples	17,161	3,187	
Hardware	6,279	665	
Manganese	442,411		23,268
Mining machinery	16,534		566
Motor vehicles	4,299	1,046	
Native produce	14,784		627
Petrol	15,232	3,629	
Railway and tramway materials	3,037		6,024

Locomotives and Rolling Stock.

The Railway owns 86 locomotives including four steam rail coaches.

The total engine mileage (inclusive of rail coach mileage) was 1,651,987, an increase of 103,789 miles compared with 1935–36.

Two new 0–8–0 shunting tank locomotives and four 4–8–2 tender mixed traffic locomotives were prepared for service during the year.

Two new cattle motor-car vans were built in Sekondi works. Seventy-three new goods and 22 new passenger vehicles were put into service.

Twelve new oil tank wagons were prepared for service for the Shell Company of West Africa.

Electric Power.

903 additional lighting, heating and power points were installed in Sekondi and Takoradi during the year. The total number of units generated was 2,123,254 an increase of 295,582 units or 13·92 per cent compared with the previous year.

Buildings, etc.

New station buildings have been provided at Opon Valley and Bekwai.

Two bungalows for European officers were built at Takoradi and one at Dunkwa, also fifty "A" Type African staff quarters at Tarkwa.

Improved watering facilities for engines have been provided and a new 60 ton weighbridge was erected at Takoradi.

Digitized by Google

Track.

The 45-lb track between Accra and Mangoase has been renewed with 60-lb material.

Improved and additional siding accommodation has been provided at Takoradi, Benso, Prestea and Konongo.

Loop lines which required lengthening between Takoradi and Nsuta to accommodate longer trains were extended.

Several private sidings have been laid for mining companies.

Points and crossings at Nsawam and Koforidua were renewed.

Stores.

The value of stock on hand at the 1st April, 1936 was £46,283 1s. 8d., and at the 31st March, 1937 £66,370 14s. 11d., representing an increase of £20,087 13s. 3d.

Road Transport Section.

7,892 tons of material were cleared at the port of Takoradi for Government departments, the bulk of this tonnage being forwarded by rail.

At Sekondi the number of officers arriving and departing by train and road was 503 with 215 tons of luggage. At Takoradi 331 officers with 131 tons of luggage were dealt with.

The cost of working the service was £1,702 and the earnings were £740.

Harbour dues amounting to £1,300 were collected from Government departments.

Government Transport Service.

This service is operated by a permanent staff of six Europeans, one African Assistant Transport Officer and 22 African clerks. In addition there are 30 mechanics, 32 drivers, 10 apprentices and 30 labourers. The department operates throughout the colony but principally in the Eastern Province, Ashanti and the Northern Territories. There are depots at Accra, Kumasi and Tamale.

The fleet consists of 45 lorries ranging in carrying capacity from 30 cwt. to six tons, three tractors with trailers of approximately 12-ton capacity, eight light cars and vans and seven touring cars.

During the year 1936–37 the fleet covered slightly over 500,000 miles. The rate charged to departments for road transport varies from 4½d. per mile for light vans and cars to 6d. per ton mile in the case of heavy lorries and 3d. per ton mile in the case of the compression ignition-engined tractor with three trailers capable of carrying 15 tons. The total expenditure of the department for the year was £23,239 and the earnings were £20,000.

Digitized by Google

The average rates of wages are as follows :—

Labourers	... ...	1s. 4d.	per day.
Drivers	... ...	2s. 6d.	do.
Fitters	... ...	3s.	do.

Training of Africans as Fitter-Drivers.

A system of apprenticeship introduced in 1928 has been attended with great success. Africans so trained are now driving and maintaining fourteen Diesel-engined vehicles, operating mainly over long distances and without European supervision. This is all the more remarkable when it is remembered that it was as recently as 1931 that the first Diesel-engined vehicle ever supplied by the Crown Agents for the Colonies was introduced into the Gold Coast.

Motor Traffic Ordinance, 1934.

The Chief Transport Officer is the Principal Certifying and Examining Officer and he has the power to recommend suitable persons for appointment by the Governor as certifying and examining officers. During the year 1,012 applicants underwent a total of 2,507 driving tests. 578 certificates of competency were issued.

Beach and Terminal Handlings.

The department is responsible for the reception at Accra of all Government consignments of stores, officers' kit, etc., from England, for the preparation of the necessary Customs entries and for the despatch of the consignments to their respective destinations. During the year 15,000 tons of stores were handled, involving the preparation of hundreds of Customs entries. No charge is made to the departments for this service.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The much improved prices for cocoa and the resultant boom in trade led to exceptional use of the postal and telegraphic services. The reduction in the internal and Empire rate of postage from 1½d. to 1d. in the previous year also contributed to the notable increase in the volume of correspondence handled by the postal authorities.

New records were made in the amount of business dealt with by the telephone and savings bank branches. In the case of the telephone the number of calls originating from public call offices increased by 58 per cent. Savings bank deposits increased by 69 per cent, and the total balances due to depositors at the end of the year exceeded for the first time a quarter of a million pounds.

Digitized by Google

Arrangements were made early in 1936 for Gold Coast air mails to be conveyed by Imperial Airways service between Kano and Khartoum, and later between Lagos and Khartoum, where they connected with the main air route between South Africa and the United Kingdom, The saving in time by air transport, however, was largely nullified by the dependence on sea conveyance to and from Lagos, Nevertheless, that the service met a public need is evidenced by the fact that 11,701 items were posted for despatch by this route.

In the last month of the year another and more direct air route to and from Europe, *via* Dakar, was provided by the French Aero-Maritime Service. The amphibian aircraft of the Aero-Maritime now make a weekly call from each direction at Takoradi. On account of the great acceleration afforded, the public use made of the air mail forwarded by this service was substantial, notwithstanding the somewhat high postage rate of 1s. 6d. the half oz. for a letter addressed to the United Kingdom.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

Seven new telephone exchanges were opened, and nine new public call offices, including one call box, provided during the year, The total number of public call offices in operation, including three call boxes, was 145.

Two hundred and thirty-eight additional subscribers' telephones were connected and 84 disconnected, making an increase of 154 subscribers' telephones in service.

Connections were made to 12 ships in Takoradi harbour in order to provide public telephone call office facilities on board.

The attention of the engineering staff throughout the year was confined chiefly to maintenance of existing plant. Only 24 miles of main and three miles of light line route were constructed.

Main and local routes throughout the colony have been overhauled and reconstructed where necessary. The work involved covered—in sections—complete rebuilding, replacement of wooden by iron poles, renewal of wires, stays, pole fittings, etc. Approximately 884 miles of route were dealt with in this manner.

Routes have been cleared of bush for a distance of approximately 1,357 miles.

The whole of the railway telegraph, telephone and signalling plant has been maintained satisfactorily with the minimum of interruption.

The Government fleet of 17 vehicles has covered a total distance of 162,000 miles on mail conveyance and engineering services without serious breakdown or delay.

The new arrangement whereby entrants to the technical services of the Engineering Branch of the Posts and Telegraphs

Digitized by Google

Department are recruited from the Government Technical School, has proved most satisfactory.

Radio Communication.

Shore to ship service is provided by the wireless station at Takoradi, and, with the exception of the short-wave transmitter, communication has been good. It was anticipated that the new modern short-wave transmitter would be in commission before the end of the year, but the manufacturers were unable to supply the equipment; it should, however, be in operation during 1937.

The installation of direction-finding equipment on the Accra aerodrome, to provide for the new air services, was begun towards the close of the year.

General Postal Statistics.

Comparative statistics of business transacted by the Posts and Telegraphs Department are given below.

Service.	1935–36.	1936–37.	*Increase.*	*Decrease.*
Mail matter posted	5,046,457	6,777,251	1,730,794	—
Mail matter delivered	5,713,994	7,636,317	1,922,323	—
Air mail posted	No service	16,435	16,435	—
Parcel Post Inland	11,035	10,741	—	294
Parcel Post Foreign posted ...	6,847	6,236	—	611
Parcel Post Foreign delivered ...	56,949	55,162	—	1,787
Customs dues collected ...	£22,731	£26,954	£4,223	—
C.O.D. collections	£46,778	£52,905	£6,127	—
Money orders issued value ...	£184,664	£230,419	£45,755	—
Money orders paid value ...	£161,538	£198,607	£37,069	—
Postal orders issued number ...	261,271	302,875	41,604	—
Postal orders issued value ...	£173,752	£206,887	£33,135	—
Postal orders paid number ...	163,649	181,148	17,499	—
Postal orders paid value ...	£106,778	£119,727	£12,949	—
Savings Bank.				
Deposits number	49,767	83,940	34,173	—
Deposits value	£126,929	£202,458	£75,529	—
Withdrawals number	21,265	25,120	3,855	—
Withdrawals value	£102,351	£118,843	£16,492	—
Balance due to depositors ...	£189,876	£273,490	£83,614	—
Telephones.				
Subscribers	983	1,117	134	—
Rental revenue	£17,852	£18,920	£1,068	—
Public call office calls	61,193	96,767	35,574	—
Total trunk and toll calls ...	259,905	360,207	100,302	—
Call revenue	£15,606	£20,481	£4,875	—
Telegrams.				
Inland and Foreign	370,720	411,605	40,885	—
Telegraph collections	£38,023	£39,622	£1,599	—
Total cash revenue (excluding free services)	£100,995	£110,139	£9,144	—

Broadcasting Service.

A Government rediffusion or wire-broadcasting service was inaugurated in Accra in 1935 and an increasing demand by various towns for the installation of similar services was experienced during the past year. A second wire-broadcasting system has already

Digitized by Google

been installed at Cape Coast and arrangements have been made for the establishment of services at Sekondi and Takoradi, Kumasi, Koforidua, Tarkwa, Winneba, Akwatia and Tamale. The Cape Coast service is presently to be extended to Saltpond and Elmina.

The Cape Coast service was officially opened on the 10th of June, 1936 and work on the Sekondi–Takoradi service began in Jaunary, 1937.

On the 31st of March, 1937 there were 250 subscribers connected to the Cape Coast service while in Sekondi and Takoradi no less than 450 applications for loud-speakers had been received up to that date.

The Accra service is steadily growing and an increase of 250 subscribers was recorded during the past year. There are now 1,006 subscribers connected to the Accra service.

African apprentices are proving successful and, as an experimental measure, certain of the most promising are being placed in charge of small rediffusion stations.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING AND CURRENCY.

Banking.

The Bank of British West Africa, Limited and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) have a number of branches established throughout the Gold Coast. The former bank has eleven branches and the latter eight.

There are Post Office Savings Bank facilities at 73 post offices.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks; but there are 427 agricultural co-operative societies run under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture, with a total membership of 10,768 and a paid-up share capital of £25,831 12s. Three hundred and ninety-eight cocoa-producers' societies during the year sold 7,887 tons of cocoa, all lots being of a high purity and commanding a small price premium.

Currency.

The following coins and currency notes are legal tender in the Gold Coast:—

West African currency notes.

West African silver coins of 2s., 1s., 6d., and 3d., West African alloy coins of the same denominations, and nickel bronze pennies, half-pennies and tenth-of-a-penny pieces.

The estimated amount of nickel-bronze coin in circulation on the 31st March, 1937 was £94,016 and of alloy coin £8,092,797. The amount of West African silver coinage in circulation cannot be ascertained with any degree of accuracy but may be estimated at £100,000. West African Currency Board notes to the value of approximately £2,084,074 were in circulation.

Weights and Measures.

British standard weights are used. The inspection of weights and measures is undertaken by police officers. During the year 835 weights, measures and weighing instruments were examined and of this number 17 were rejected.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department includes civil, mechanical, electrical and public health branches, which deal with the design, construction and maintenance of public works, including roads, buildings, electric supplies, drainage and waterworks.

Road Development.

Good progress was made with the new road development programme undertaken during the year 1935–36.

The trunk road from Accra to Kumasi is now almost completed as far as Nkawkaw. Plans have already been prepared for its extension as far as the Ashanti boundary and construction will begin as soon as the necessary land has been acquired.

Meanwhile the work of surveying the remainder of the route continues and is expected to be completed at an early date.

The Brofoyedru-Fomena section of the Cape Coast–Kumasi road has been opened to traffic and work is well advanced on the Fomena–Kumasi section.

Various feeder roads in the banana growing areas have been constructed, the Dunkwa–Wioso and the Insu–Enchi roads have been linked up, and the Bechem–Tepa–Goaso road has been completed. Work is also proceeding on the Kumasi-Offinso-Abufaw road, while the Agona–Simpa section of the Takoradi–Tarkwa road will shortly be opened.

Certain other roads have been taken over from the Political Administration and reconstructed, and there can be no doubt that during the year road communications throughout the Gold Coast have greatly improved.

Airports.

Work on the construction of airports for Accra and Takoradi was begun during the year and at Accra such good progress has been made that the airport there should be ready for regular use in July, 1937.

The airport at Takoradi, the construction of which involves unusually heavy earthwork, is not expected to be completed before 1938.

Both of these airports will be equipped with wireless and direction-finding apparatus and anti-amaryl quarters will be provided.

Digitized by Google

Hangars are also to be erected, together with a substantial administrative building to which offices for a meteorological branch will be attached.

Electric Supplies.

Electricity is available in the towns of Accra, Winneba, Koforidua, Cape Coast, Sekondi, Takoradi, Aburi, Kumasi, Tamale and Pong-Tamale.

The Public Works Department is in charge of all these supplies, except that at Sekondi and Takoradi, which is under the control of the Railway Department.

The fixed charges per lamp have again been reduced and are now as low as 2s. 6d. per month for one lamp, 4s. per month for two lamps and 5s. per month for three lamps.

Previous reductions of this kind have been fully justified by the subsequent increase in consumption.

Water Supplies.

Pipe-borne water supplies are provided for Accra, Winneba, Cape Coast, Sekondi, Takoradi, Kumasi, Tamale and Pong-Tamale. Work on the provision of a supply for Koforidua has begun, while from Cape Coast the existing mains are being extended to Saltpond and Elmina for the benefit not only of those thriving towns but of the numerous intervening villages.

All these supplies are controlled by the Public Works Department and the water provided is of a very high standard of purity.

Extraordinary Works.

The amount provided for extraordinary works was £292,000 as compared with an expenditure of £73,000 in the previous year.

Most of this expenditure was in respect of roads, waterworks and aerodromes, but smaller works included surface water drains, offices or extensions thereto, police barracks, hospitals, etc.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The law of the Colony is the Common Law, the doctrines of equity and the statutes of general application in force in England on the 24th July, 1874, modified by a large number of local ordinances passed since that date. The criminal law was codified in 1892 ; criminal procedure is regulated by the Criminal Procedure Code of 1935 and the civil procedure by the Courts Ordinance, 1935.

The Supreme Court of the Gold Coast consists of the Chief Justice and seven Puisne Judges. The Chief Justice and the Puisne Judges of Nigeria and of the Colony of Sierra Leone and the Judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony of the Gambia are also *ex officio* Puisne Judges of the Gold Coast.

The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court was on 1st July, 1935, extended to Ashanti and the Northern Territories.

The West African Court of Appeal Order-in-Council came into force on the 1st March, 1930 and the first session of the court was held at Freetown in Sierra Leone on the 10th March. This court now deals with appeals from the courts of the Colonies of the Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, the Gambia and Nigeria, from the courts of the Protectorates of Sierra Leone and the Gambia and from the courts of Togoland under British Mandate. Amending Orders-in-Council were made from time to time and the court is now constituted under the " West African Court of Appeal Orders-in-Council 1928–35, Consolidated ".

Where a magistrate's court makes a conviction or order ordering any of the following things, that is to say :—

(*a*) payment of a penalty not less than five pounds ;

(*b*) the doing or not doing of some act other than the payment of money or the entering into of recognizances to keep the peace without sureties and that in case of default in the doing or not doing of such act the defendant be imprisoned and kept to hard labour ; or

(*c*) imprisonment with or without hard labour ; or

(*d*) corporal punishment ;

the party against whom the conviction or order is made may appeal to the Supreme Court against such decision. No appeal, however, is allowed in the case of any accused person who has pleaded guilty

Digitized by Google

and has been convicted on such plea, except as to the legality or extent of the sentence.

An appeal to the Supreme Court may be on a matter of fact as well as on a matter of law.

The Supreme Court consists of Divisional Courts at Accra, Cape Coast, Sekondi, Kumasi and Tamale. At Accra there are sometimes three courts and at Kumasi there are usually two courts sitting. Criminal assizes are held quarterly at the above-named towns and special divisional courts are occasionally held at other of the larger towns.

The West African (Appeal to Privy Council) Order-in-Council, 1930, prescribes the procedure and rules to be observed in appeals from the West African Court of Appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

In criminal cases District Magistrates have the power of imposing a fine not exceeding £100 or inflicting imprisonment for a maximum period of one year. Their jurisdiction is limited to civil cases in which the amount in dispute does not exceed £150.

District Commissioners when functioning as Magistrates may imprison for a term not exceeding six months or fine up to a maximum of £50 ; their civil jurisdiction is limited to cases where the amount involved does not exceed £100.

The Chief Law Officer and the head of the Gold Coast Bar is the Attorney-General, who is assisted by a Solicitor-General and three Crown Counsel. The Chief Justice may in his discretion approve, admit and enrol persons to practise as barristers and solicitors in the court under the provisions of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance, 1931 section 3.

During the period under review, 77 cases were disposed of by the West African Court of Appeal. Two hundred and ninety-five civil actions were brought in the Divisional Courts. The total number of appeals and of civil actions in the Divisional Courts shows in each case an increase over that of last year.

In the superior courts, there were 248 convictions in criminal cases, a decrease of 24 as compared with last year's figures. In the courts of summary jurisdiction there were 17,440 convictions, being 8,246 less than in the previous year.

Police.

The Gold Coast Police at the close of the year 1936–37 had a total strength of 37 European officers and 1,892 African officers, non-commissioned officers, and constables. These 1,929 police are distributed between 85 stations and posts in the Gold Coast, Ashanti, the Northern Territories, and Togoland under British Mandate. The headquarters of the force are at Accra, where are also the Criminal Investigation Department headquarters, the Headquarters Licensing and Immigration Offices, and the Police Training Depot.

Digitized by Google

Provincial police headquarters are at Koforidua (Eastern Province), Cape Coast (Central Province), Sekondi (Western Province), Kumasi (Ashanti), and Tamale (Northern Territories).

The European police officers are selected for appointment by the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the African personnel is recruited locally in the Gold Coast. The force is composed of three branches which have each their particular duties and which draw their recruits from among three widely differing types of African. The general police are all literate men and are generally recruited from the Colony and from Ashanti. They are mainly employed on such duties as the investigation of crime, the compilation of criminal records, the issue and registration of licences, and the keeping of station books and records. They also provide men for traffic control and for other street duties.

The escort police are illiterate Africans and are mostly natives of the Northern Territories. Many time-expired soldiers of the Royal West African Frontier Force are enlisted in this branch of the police, which normally provides escorts for specie and bullion, guards for treasuries and banks, etc., and which carries out most of the street duties of the force. The marine police are illiterate, or in some cases partly literate, Africans who are recruited from the seaboard towns and villages of the Colony. This branch of the force is employed solely on port and harbour duties in co-operation with the Customs Department.

The escort police are armed with rifles and bayonets. The general police and the marine police are not so armed.

The Criminal Investigation Department has filed 48,610 sets of finger-print impressions since 1923, and in addition keeps photographic and other criminal records.

The police carry out all licensing duties in respect of motor vehicles, driving licences, the registration of domestic servants, the registration of goldsmiths, and the registration of auctioneers and are responsible for the control of immigration and for the registration of aliens. The number of motor vehicles licensed during 1934, 1935, and 1936 was as follows :—

Year.	*Private cars.*	*Motor lorries.*	*Motor Cycles.*	*Trailers.*	*Total.*
1934	1,772	4,513	557	787	7,629
1935	1,818	4,990	475	1,198	8,481
1936	1,862	5,481	380	1,691	9,414

The number of driving licences issued in these three years was 8,610, 9,012 and 9,116 respectively. During the year 1936 5,257 domestic servants were licensed and 1,651 goldsmiths' licences and 1,593 goldsmiths' hawking licences were issued.

Digitized by Google

Crime statistics for the past three years are as follows :—

	1934–5.	1935–6.	1936–7.
Cases reported	28,194	29,438	35,901
Cases prosecuted	21,798	23,239	28,742
Persons convicted ...	24,225	25,267	30,029

The 30,029 persons convicted during 1936–1937 were dealt with as follows :—

4,579 were sent to terms of imprisonment,
207 were whipped (all being juveniles),
22,432 were fined,
1,934 were cautioned,
461 were bound over,
404 were committed for trial before the Divisional Courts, and
12 juveniles were sent to Reformatory school.

Prisons.

There are twenty-five prisons in the Gold Coast, of which those at Accra, Sekondi, Kumasi and Tamale are central prisons to which long-sentence prisoners are sent. These are equipped with workshops in which the following trades are taught by African instructors under the supervision of a European Instructor of Industries : tailoring, carpentry and cabinet-making, shoemaking, cane furniture-making, building construction, brick-making, brush-making and mat-making. In addition the weaving of locally-grown and spun cotton has been introduced.

These industries are taught with the object of providing a prisoner with a means of livelihood on discharge. Efforts are made to teach trades the materials used in which may be produced locally and which do not require expensive tools.

There is a special class for particularly industrious prisoners of good conduct who are granted extra privileges.

All prisoners with sentences of over six months come under the mark system and can earn remission of part of their sentence by industry and good behaviour.

The local prisons are situated in various district headquarters and accommodate prisoners who are serving sentences of six months or under. They are supervised by District Commissioners with African prison officials in direct control. The labour performed at these prisons is chiefly general station work, road-making, work on prison farms and construction work. Most of the conservancy labour will be taken over by the Health authorities from 1st April, 1937.

At the central prisons there are facilities for segregating prisoners including recidivists. In local prisons where special wards are not available debtors and untried prisoners are kept in

Digitized by Google

separate cells. There are female prisons at Accra, Elmina, Tamale, Keta and Kumasi to which as far as is practicable all female prisoners are sent. In other prisons, if the length of sentence does not justify a transfer, female prisoners are kept apart from the male prisoners and are under the control of matrons. There are special wards at Elmina for prisoners suffering from tuberculosis and leprosy.

Each prison is regularly visited by Government medical officers. There are infirmaries at the central prisons with specially trained dispenser-warders in charge. The most common diseases among prisoners during the year under review were chicken-pox, gonorrhoea, guinea-worm, yaws, malaria and constipation. Weights of prisoners are recorded monthly.

In 1936–7 there were 33 deaths or 17·93 per thousand.

The daily average population of the prisons for the year was 1,840 as compared with 1,878 in the previous year.

Prisoners' rations are issued in accordance with the diet scale laid down in the Prison Regulations. They have been good and sufficient. Rations are prepared in prison kitchens. The Accra and Sekondi prisons are equipped with steam cooking plants.

Owing to the difficulty of obtaining suitable persons to act as probation officers there is no probation system and the possibility of obtaining voluntary assistance in the form of a prisoners' aid society is extremely remote.

There were four executions in 1936–37 as compared with nine in the previous year.

There is an industrial home for male juvenile offenders at Kintampo, under the control of the Salvation Army. Boys may be retained in the home until the age of 18 and receive educational and vocational training. Ten boys were admitted and five discharged during the year. There are at present twenty-five inmates. The home is situated in a fertile district, and the boys have been successful in raising good crops of ground provisions, such as beans, cassava, sweet potatoes, yams, etc.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

Twenty-seven ordinances were enacted during the period under review, of which the most important were the following :—

The Carriage of Goods by Road Ordinance, 1936.—The purpose of this ordinance is to prevent an apprehended loss of railway revenue resulting from the carrying out of the new programme of road construction which has been planned for the improvement of communications within the Gold Coast. As the new roads will provide facilities for road traffic which do not at present exist, it is feared that in the absence of any statutory restrictions, these roads would deprive the railway of a considerable amount of freight which it now carries. It is proposed in such cases, so far as is practicable and with the minimum of restriction compatible with the object in view, to prevent the carriage of certain goods along these roads.

The Local Forces Ordinance, 1936.—This ordinance provides for the establishment, organization and control of the auxiliary forces of the Gold Coast, which will consist of a Territorial Battalion, a European reserve of officers, an African reserve and such other units as may from time to time be established by order of the Governor.

The Savings Bank Ordinance, 1936.—This ordinance, which repeals existing legislation on the subject, follows the form of a model ordinance which it is proposed should be introduced throughout the Crown Colonies. It provides *inter alia* that a Government guarantee is given to every depositor and that not more than one-third of the deposits shall at any one time be invested in Gold Coast securities.

The Immigration Restriction (Amendment) Ordinance, 1937.—The object of this ordinance is to bring within the scope of the Principal Ordinance natives of West Africa other than those who belong to the Gold Coast.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The net revenue and expenditure of the Gold Coast for the past six years are given below :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1931-32	2,284,299	2,823,752
1932–33	2,670,786 (*a*)	2,673,482
1933–34	2,684,925 (*b*)	2,313,096
1934–35	2,778,055 (*b*)	2,554,039 (*c*)
1935–36	3,268,378	3,128,606 (*d*)
1936–37	3,774,746	3,916,992 (*e*)

The following table shows the receipts during the last six years under the main heads of revenue :—

Head.	1931–32.	1932–33.	1933–34.
	£	£	£
Customs	1,473,587	1,647,628	1,823,465
Licences	188,823	198,345	180,638
Fees	227,486	203,469	192,513
Posts and Telegraphs ...	105,764	94,251	91,427
Sundry and extraordinary	288,639	527,093	396,882
Total	2,284,299	2,670,786	2,684,925

Head.	1934–35.	1935–36.	1936–37.
	£	£	£
Customs	1,906,080	2,434,752	2,955,699
Licences	267,108	256,331	254,822
Fees	187,081	197,296	225,897
Post and Telegraphs ...	98,415	100,687	109,108
Sundry and extraordinary	319,371	279,312	229,220
Total	2,778,055	3,268,378	3,774,746

(*a*) Includes £61,500 levy on salaries and £163,500 appreciation in value of Reserve Fund and savings bank investments.

(*b*) Includes £60,003 levy on salaries in 1933–34, £15,709 in 1934–35

(*c*) Includes £98,524 transferred to the Reserve Fund.

(*d*) Includes £66,539 paid in full settlement of Colonial Development Fund Loans, transfers of £100,000 to Reserve Fund, £453,720 to Sinking Fund (Supplementary) Reserve and £125,000 special contribution to Railway Renewals Fund.

(*e*) Includes £796,280 transferred to Sinking Fund (Supplementary) Reserve and £230,147 contribution to Railway Renewals.

Digitized by Google

The working of the year 1936–37 may be summarised as under :—

Expenditure (general budget) :—		
Recurrent	£2,516,592	
Extraordinary	1,400,400 (*f*)	
		3,916,992
Revenue		3,774,746
Deficit		£142,246

Railway.	1935–36.		1936–37
Revenue ...	£1,002,802		£1,094,108
Expenditure ...	966,124		999,701
Surplus ...	£36,678	Surplus ...	£94,407

It should be noted, however, that included in the railway expenditure for 1936–37 there is a contribution of £139,491 to the Renewals Fund.

Takoradi Harbour.	1935–36.	1936–37.
Revenue	£196,423	206,069
Expenditure	178,921	185,242
Surplus	£17,502	£20,827

The general reserves of the Colony on the 31st March, 1937, amounted to £4,764,835 as under :—

Excess of assets over liabilities	£844,035
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund (surplus assets thereof)	11,729
General Reserve Fund	1,500,000
Railway Renewals Fund	1,121,418
Takoradi Harbour Renewals Fund	37,653
Sinking Fund (Supplementary) Reserve ...	1,250,000
	£4,764,835

Assets and Liabilities.

The Colony's assets at the 31st March, 1937, were as follows :—

Cash balance	£198,475	
Joint Colonial Fund	1,344,000	
General advance accounts	57,746	
Unallocated stores	130,496	
Municipal loan accounts	57,126	
Investments	3,544,675	
		£5,332,518

(*f*) See Note (*e*) overleaf.

Digitized by Google

and these assets may be said to be ear-marked against the following liabilities :—

General deposit account	£157,187	
Loan account (unexpended balance)	16,285	
Special funds	405,940	
Renewals funds	1,159,071	
Reserve funds	2,750,000	
		£4,488,483
Leaving a surplus of assets over liabilities of		£844,035

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony on the 31st March, 1937, was, £11,435,000 and the statutory sinking funds for the redemption of debt amounted to £1,470,303.

Taxation.

There is no direct taxation. The main heads of indirect taxation and the revenue derived from them during 1936–37 are indicated below.

Customs duties	£2,955,699
Harbour and light dues	41,803
Licences, etc.	254,822

Customs duties represent 78·3 per cent of the total revenue for the year.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Geological Survey.

Field work during the year included the geological mapping and prospecting of (*a*) Togoland under British Mandate, north of a line through Akroso and Borada, (*b*) parts of the Bawku and Zuaragu districts, (*c*) the country between Huni Valley, Esuasu, Simpa and Huniso, (*d*) the country around Lake Bosumtwi and Bosumkese mountain, Ashanti, (*e*) the north-western corner of the Wenchi district, Ashanti, and (*f*) a belt of country 10–20 miles wide stretching north-east from the Black Volta river near Wasipe and Ntereso to near Kanjaga, Northern Territories.

Detailed studies of the Tarkwa goldfield and the Nsuta manganese-ore deposits were started, and the workings of most of the active gold mines and prospects were examined.

Gold.—The geological mapping of the Tarkwa goldfield has now advanced sufficiently far to permit the preparation of a geological map on the scale of one inch to a mile. The more detailed investigation of the country in the vicinity of the mines must, however, await the completion of the topographical survey to which reference is made in a later section of this chapter. The general structure and stratigraphy of the goldfield are now clear and much information of value to the gold mining industry in relation to the lines on which future development of the goldfield should be carried out has been collected.

Old native workings were discovered in the north-western corner of Ashanti, and a few quartz reefs carrying patchy values were found in this area and in the Bole and Wa districts.

Nsuta manganese-ore deposits.—The investigation of these deposits has established the following points, viz :—

(*a*) The manganese ores are associated with a series of volcanis and pyroclastic rocks with subordinate phyllites, lying in a well-defined horizon near the top of the Upper Birrimian formation.

(*b*) The manganese was deposited in the rocks at the time of their formation.

(*c*) The ores, together with the surrounding beds, were strongly folded and faulted and in places veined by quartz. Thus the ore bodies nearly all appear to be folded and/or faulted portions of an originally continuous bed.

Digitized by Google

(*d*) Though recent weathering has resulted in the reconstitution and enrichment of the ores near the surface the high-grade black ores of the main ore bodies show little sign of recent alteration, and have probably existed as such since they were deposited.

Water supplies.—The investigation of the water supplies of the Northern Territories was completed and a detailed report was submitted thereon. A water supply section of the Geological Survey has recently been formed to carry out the recommendations embodied in the report.

Geophysical prospecting.—Traverses were run with a vertical-force magnetic variometer across the Tarkwaian rocks in the Tarkwa goldfield. The results indicate that the magnetic method would be useful in this area for mapping geological contacts, dykes and faults.

Publications.—Bulletin No. 7—*The Bauxite Deposits of the Gold Coast,* and *Reports of Investigations into the Water Supplies of the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast* were published, and Bulletin No. 8—*The Geology of the Bosumtwi Caldera and Surrounding Country*—is now being printed.

Lands Department.

The cardinal principle adopted by Government in framing its land policy is that all land other than that alienated to the Crown belongs to the people of the Gold Coast ; if no owner can be found the ownership is assumed to be vested in the local community.

The alienation to individuals or companies of land in the Colony or Ashanti for mining, agricultural or arboricultural purposes is subject, in most cases, to the Concessions Ordinance which restricts the estate which can be held to a maximum term of 99 years and empowers the court to impose such conditions and restrictions upon the tenants as it may deem desirable in the interests of the local owners. A further restriction is placed by this Ordinance upon the total area which may be held by any one concession ho'der.

Government has power under the existing law to acquire compulsorily, subject to the payment of compensation, such land as is required for public purposes.

In the Northern Territories recent legislation has, in the Land and Native Rights Ordinance, 1931, defined the respective rights and obligations of the Government and of the people of the Protectorate, preserving as far as possible the existing native customary law in its relation to the use and occupation of the land, but placing restrictions upon the alienation of land by natives to non-natives.

Digitized by Google

The exploitation of minerals in the Northern Territories is regulated by the Minerals Ordinance, 1936, under which the property in, and control of, all minerals is declared to reside in the Governor. The ordinance contains provisions for the protection of the natives in any area which is being developed.

Town-planning, in the strict application of the term, does not prevail, although legislation provides for it. In the towns of Takoradi, Kumasi and Tamale, the sites of which are Crown land, provisions exist to restrict the user of the land and to ensure the erection of substantial buildings upon it.

A substitute for town-planning has been found in the provision, as conditions warrant, of lay-outs by agreement with the local chiefs or land-owners. This system has been effective in ensuring correct development of many towns, both large and small. Extensive lay-outs of stool lands adjacent to Accra have recently been effected and in these cases the allocation of any vacant plots remains under the control of the chiefs. In towns where development is anticipated, agreements are made with the local chiefs whereby such development shall proceed only on orderly lines and in accordance with the lay-out as designed. Arrangements are concluded at the same time to enable Government to acquire free of claims for compensation the land required for roads and for such other sites as are required for public purposes. A plan of the lay-out superimposed upon a survey of the town affected is attached to the agreement, which thus defines clearly and finally the position and enables the orderly development of the town to take place without undue expenditure. Repeated requests are received for the lay-out of towns and villages to which no lay-out scheme has yet been applied.

Building regulations are in force, some of general application and others of particular application to certain towns.

A system of deed registration is in force throughout the Colony and Ashanti but registration of title has not yet been introduced.

The Government owns little land in the Colony as may be seen from the accompanying table.

	Total Area Sq. miles.	*Area owned by Government Sq. miles.*
Gold Coast Colony	23,937	55
Ashanti	24,379	81
Northern Territories	30,486	43
Total	78,802	179
Mandated Territory of Togoland ...	13,041	6

The Lands Department, which has charge of all dealings with Crown land, has its headquarters at Accra with branch offices at Sekondi and Kumasi.

Digitized by Google

Survey Department.

The Survey Department again spent a busy year, much of its time being occupied by the work which devolved upon it as a result of the continued expansion of the mining industry. This work, which has necessitated the concentration of a large proportion of the field staff in the Western Province, is not limited to the surveying of lands in respect of which concessions have been granted. There are lay-outs to be devised for villages and towns which, by reason of their proximity to a newly established mine, find their population swollen by a sudden influx of outside labour. A considerable amount of survey work has also been carried out in connection with land acquisitions made necessary by Government's extensive road building programme.

The topographical branch completed the revision of the Dunkwa Standard Sheet and started a special large-scale survey of about 120 square miles of land in the Tarkwa Mining Area. This work was an essential preliminary to the detailed geological survey which is shortly to be undertaken in this area by the Geological Survey Department, for whose use the existing one-inch map is much too small.

The framework section made good progress with the survey of primary traverses in the Northern Territories, although work on a similar survey in much more difficult country in the Western Province had to be suspended for about six months owing to staff casualties. A new auxiliary chain of triangulation was measured in the Western Province, the observations, including those of a terminal azimuth determination, being made entirely by an African Surveyor.

Seventy-two miles of geodetic levels were completed during the year. So far only one party has been employed on work in this increasingly important field, and it is unlikely that further personnel will be available until additional surveyors have been trained at the Survey School.

At headquarters a considerable amount of special meteorological work was carried out in connection with the new Air Services in West Africa. Anemometers were erected at Accra and Takoradi and " upper air observations " made at Accra. The anemometer readings were necessary in order to determine the correct orientation of runways on the aerodromes at these two stations. At the end of the year special meteorological information was being sent to the Takoradi wireless station on all days when aeroplanes belonging to the new French Air Service were due to fly. All this work, which it was found absorbed more time than could conveniently be spared for it, will eventually be taken over by personnel belonging to the new West African Meteorological Service, now in course of formation.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX A.

The following publications of local interest may be obtained (post free) from the Government Printing Department (Publications Branch), Box 124, Accra.

	£	s.	d.
Census, 1931.			
The Gold Coast, 1931 (*Cardinall*)	0	12	6
A Bibliography of the Gold Coast (*Cardinall*)	0	12	6
Appendices containing Comparative Returns and General Statistics of the 1931 Census	0	12	0
(The above three volumes per set)	1	5	0
Customs—			
Customs Import and Export Lists, 1930 edition	0	2	0
Customs Import and Export Lists, 1936 edition	0	3	0
Customs Tariff and Custom House Guide (1929)	0	1	0
Trade Report, 1935	0	7	6
Trade Report, 1936	0	7	6
Departmental Annual Reports—			
Agriculture, Animal Health, Audit, Education, Geological Survey, Medical and Sanitary, Mines, Police, Railway, Survey, Treasury, Forestry	0	2	0
Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the Gold Coast	0	1	0
Geology—			
Annual Reports from 1913. Copies for only the following years are now available: 1915, 1919, 1929–30, 1931–32, 1933–34, 1934–35 and 1935–36	0	2	0
1923–24 and 1925–26	0	3	0
Geological and Mining Features of the Tarkwa–Abosso Goldfield (Memoir No. 1 Geol. Survey) (*Whitelaw and Junner*)	0	5	0
Microscopical Features and Chemical Analyses of Gold Coast Igneous Rocks (*Junner*) 1928 (Bulletin No. 4)	0	3	0
The Geology of the Prestea Goldfield (Memoir No. 3 Geol. Survey) (*Cooper*)	0	5	0
Report on the Geology of Western Togoland 1921 (*Robertson*) ...	0	5	0
Gold in the Gold Coast with coloured Geological Map (Memoir No. 4 Geol. Survey) (*Junner*) 1935	0	8	0
Minerals of Concentrates from Stream-Gravels, Soils, and Crushed Rocks of the Gold Coast (Bulletin No. 6) (*Kitson and Felton*) 1930	0	1	0
Outlines of the Minerals and Water-Power Resources of the Gold Coast, British West Africa, with Hints on Prospecting (Bulletin No. 1) (*Kitson*) 1925	0	1	0
References to Occurrences of Economic Minerals in the Gold Coast, recorded in Annual Reports (Bulletin No. 5) (*Kitson and Felton*) 1930	0	1	0
Report on Rapid Geol. Survey of Gambia (Bulletin No. 3, Geol. Survey) (*Cooper*) 1927	0	3	0
The Bauxite Deposits of the Gold Coast (*Cooper*) 1936 (Bulletin No. 7)	0	3	0
The Geology of the Bosumtwi Caldera and Surrounding Country and Results of a Hydrographic Survey of Lake Bosumtwi (*D. P. McGregor and White*) 1937 (Bulletin No. 8)	0	3	0
The Geology of the Prestea Gold Belt (*Cooper*) 1934 (Memoir No. 3)	0	5	0

Digitized by Google

	£	s.	d.
History—			
A Brief Review of the History and Social Organisation of the Peoples of the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast (*Eyre-Smith*) ...	0	1	0
Adangbe Historical and Proverbial Songs (*Enoch Azu*)	0	1	0
Enquiry into the Constitution and Organisation of the Dagbon Kingdom	0	2	6
Native States of the Gold Coast: History and Constitution—ASHANTA (*Welman*)	0	2	6
Journal of the Senior Naval Officer, Bights Sub-Division, H.M. Navy (*Gibbons*)	0	0	6
A Note on the History of the British Courts in the Gold Coast Colony (*Sir Brandford Griffiths*) 1936	0	1	6
Languages, Text Books—			
A Brief Account of the Brissa Language (*Chamberlain*)	0	3	0
A Preliminary Study of Nzima (*Welman*)	0	1	0
A Study of the Ewe Language (*Westermann*)	0	3	6
English and Nzima Key Book (*Anaman*)	0	0	6
English-Ewe Dictionary (*Westermann*)	0	1	0
Ga Grammar Notes and Exercises (*Wilkie*)	0	3	6
Standard Nzima—Part I (*Anaman*)	0	0	3
Notes on Colloquial Hausa for beginners (*Major I. H. MacDonell, D.S.O.*)	0	1	0
Legal—			
Supplement to the Gold Coast Laws, 1928 edition, in 2 parts, per part	0	10	6
Annual Volumes of Ordinances	0	10	6
(Price per single issue, according to size, from 1/– upwards.)			
Interpreters Handbook	0	4	0
Native Administration Ordinance and Regulations, 1936 edition ...	0	5	0
Subsidiary Legislation—			
Annual Volumes of Rules, Proclamations, etc., 1935 edition—Parts I and II ... ... per part	0	10	6
(Price per single issue, accroding to size, from 1/– upwards.)			
Natural History—			
Birds of Tropical West Africa—Vol. I (*Bannerman*)	1	2	6
Birds of Tropical West Africa—Vol. II (*Bannerman*)	1	2	6
Birds of Tropical West Africa—Vol. III (*Bannerman*)	1	2	6
Birds of Tropical West Africa—Vol. IV (*Bannerman*)	1	2	6
Vol. V now in course of preparation.			
Subscription price for the complete work in 5 volumes—£5 net.			
Miscellaneous—			
Address by His Excellency the Governor on Estimates 1937–38 ...	0	1	0
Gold Coast and Ashanti Reader—Books I and II (*Brown*) ... each	0	3	0
Report of the Committee appointed by the Governor to inspect the College and School, Achimota	0	1	0
The Colonial Administrative Service List (1st edition)	0	2	0
The Colonial Administrative Service List, Supplement	0	0	9
The Colonial Legal Service List (1st edition 1935)	0	0	9
Papers relating to the Petition of the Delegation from the Gold Coast Colony and Ashanti	0	3	0
The Gold Coast Handbook of Nursing	0	1	6
The Gold Coast Handbook of Nursing (Childrens Section)	0	1	6
The Teachers' Journal. Annual Volume (three or four copies) post free	0	2	0
Single copy, post free	0	0	9
Tribal Markings and Marks of Adornment of Natives of Northern Territories of Gold Coast (*Armitage*)	0	1	0
Village Health	0	1	6
The Cattle of the Gold Coast (*Capt. J. L. Stewart, M.C., B.Sc., M.R.C.V.S.*)	0	2	0
Empire Survey Review (issued quarterly) ... per quarterly issue	0	3	0
Volumes I, II and III. Nos. 2–17 are now available.			
Transport—			
An Analysis of the Motor Traffic Legislation of the Colonies ...	0	10	0

Digitized by Google

THE FOLLOWING PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

Blue Book, 1935–36—Gold Coast ... ... yearly	0	5	0
Estimates—			
Each annual issue	0	7	6
Memorandum by Colonial Secretary on	0	2	0
Report of Select Committee on (Sessional Paper)	0	2	0
Gazette, Gold Coast—			
Subscription, twelve months	2	0	0
Subscription, six months	1	0	0
Bound volumes, 1928–1934 ... ... half-yearly	1	0	0
Trade Supplement, bound volume ... ... yearly	0	10	0
(Price per copy, according to size, 1d. upwards.)			
Legislative Council Debates—			
Subscription per annum	0	10	6
(Price per issue, according to size, from 1/– upwards.)			
Gold Coast News—			
Subscription, twelve months	2	0	0
Subscription, six months	1	0	0

SURVEY DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Copies of the undermentioned maps and full information regarding them can be obtained from the Surveyor-General, Cantonments, Accra; The Methodist Book Depots at Accra, Cape Coast, Sekondi, Kumasi, and Swedru; and West Africa Publicity, Limited, Accra.

In Great Britain they may be obtained from :—

Edward Stanford, Limited,
12–14 Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

Sifton Praed & Co., Ltd.,
67 St. James Street, London, S.W.1.

Philip, Son & Nephew,
20 Church Street, Liverpool.

J. E. Cornish, Limited,
16 St. Ann's Square, Manchester.

W. & A. K. Johnston, Limited,
Easter Road, Edinburgh.

Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to the Government Printer Accra, Gold Coast, and crossed.

Digitized by Google

SURVEY MAPS (PRINCIPAL PUBLICATIONS ONLY).

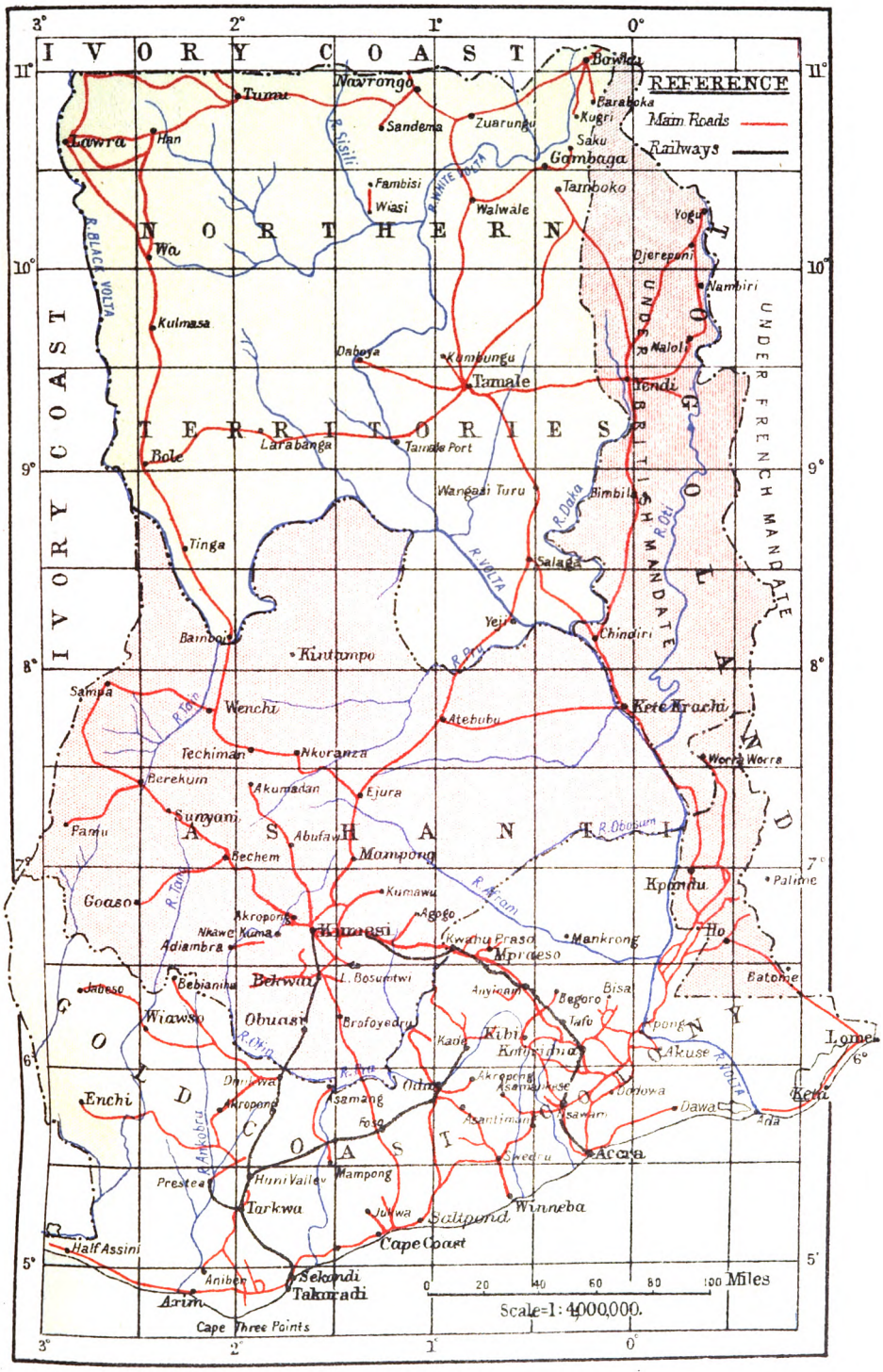
Description.			Price. On Linen and folded.	Price. Paper only.
Layered Maps	1 : 250,000	or nearly four miles to one inch. The height of the ground is indicated by different colours.	4/-	2/-
Standard Maps	1 : 125,000	or nearly two miles to one inch.	4/-	2/-
Topographical Maps	1 : 62,500	or nearly one mile to one inch.	4/-	2/-
Town Plans	1 : 6,250	or 10 inches (approx.) to one mile. One Plan for each town: Asamangkese, Atuabo, Axim, Cape Coast, Dunkwa, Keta, Kibi, Koforidua, Kumasi, Nsawam, Oda, Saltpond, Sekondi, Sunyani, Takoradi, Tamale, Tarkwa, Winneba.	8/-	4/-
Town Plans	1 : 6,250	Accra, Northern Section ...	10/6	8/-
Town Plans	1 : 6,250	Accra, Southern Section ...	10/6	8/-
Town Plans	1 : 1,250	of several of the largest towns in the Colony. For the number of plans to each town, *see* Maps Catalogue obtainable from all Agents, Survey Department and Government Printer.	—	2/-
Road Map	1 : 500,000	Southern Section of the Colony	8/-	4/-
Road Map	1 : 500,000	Northern Section of the Colony	8/-	4/-
General Map	1 : 1,000,000	Complete map of the Gold Coast.	8/-	4/-
Geological and Mining Map	1 : 500,000	Southern Section of the Colony.	10/-	8/-
Geological Map	1 : 500,000	Southern Section of the Colony.	8/-	6/-
Accra and Environs	1 : 20,000	... ...	10/6	8/-

	£	s.	d.
Wall Map of West Africa 1 : 1,500,000. Size 100 x 50 inches. Mounted on cloth and rollers	1	10	0
School Map Book	0	0	4
Wall Map of the Gold Coast (3rd and Revised Edition). Size 88 x 66 inches. Mounted on cloth and rollers	1	10	0
Atlas of the Gold Coast	0	3	0

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

THE GOLD COAST



Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. 111] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

47591—48) Wt. 3473—3992 600 2/38 P. St. G. 377/7

S.O. Code No. 58-1836

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

47591—48) Wt. 3473—3992 600 2/38 P. St. G. 377/7 S.O. Code No. 58-1836

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
.G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1835

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

STATE OF KEDAH
(Unfederated Malay States)

REPORT FOR THE YEAR A.H. 1355

(For Report for the year A.H. 1353 (16th April, 1934—4th April, 1935) see No. 1746 (Price 2s. 6d.), and for Report for the year A.H. 1354 (5th April, 1935—23rd March, 1936) see No. 1791 (Price 3s. 0d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN KEDAH)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1 BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
ookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1835

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

STATE OF KEDAH
(Unfederated Malay States)

REPORT FOR THE YEAR A.H. 1355

(For Report for the year A.H. 1353 (16th April, 1934—4th April, 1935) see No. 1746 (Price 2s. 6d.), and for Report for the year A.H. 1354 (5th April, 1935—23rd March, 1936) see No. 1791 (Price 3s. 0d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN KEDAH)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1938
Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Brit. Govt. Pub.
Gatteran
3-19-37
15205

STATE OF KEDAH.

CONTENTS.

Chapter		Page
I.	GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY	1
	Climate	2
	History	2
II.	GOVERNMENT	5
III.	POPULATION	6
IV.	HEALTH	8
	Hygiene and Sanitation	12
	School Inspection	18
	Maternity and Child Welfare	19
	Hospitals and Dispensaries	20
	Leprosy	21
	Concluding Remarks	22
V.	HOUSING	23
	Housing of agricultural population in rural area	23
	Housing in Urban Areas	24
	Housing of Labourers on Estates ...	24
	Housing of Government Servants ...	25
VI.	PRODUCTION	26
	Mining	26
	Chart showing areas under Cultivation, Forest Reserves, Etc.	28
	Agriculture	29
	Livestock	36
	Estate Labour	38
	Forests	39
VII.	COMMERCE	41
VIII.	WAGES AND COST OF LIVING	45
IX.	EDUCATION	46
X.	COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT ...	53
	Posts, Telegraphs, Telephones & Wireless...	53
	Shipping	54
	Railways	54
	Roads, etc.	54

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER PAGE

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES 55

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS 56

XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE

COURTS 60
POLICE 60
PRISONS 61
VAGRANTS' CAMP 64

XIV.—LEGISLATION 65

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE, TAXATION 66

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS 69

LANDS 77
RUBBER REGULATION 77
SURVEY 77
CHINESE PROTECTORATE 78
CO-OPERATION 80
PRINTING DEPARTMENT 81
REGISTRY OF FOREIGN COMPANIES 82
KEDAH VOLUNTEER FORCE 82
WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION 82
GENERAL 83

APPENDICES.

A.—STATEMENT OF REVENUE FOR A.H. 1351–1355 (A.D. 1933–1937) 85

B.—STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR A.H. 1351–1355 (A.D. 1933–1937) 86

C.—STATISTICS OF THE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT 87

D.—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT 88

E1.—PRINCIPAL EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FOR THE YEARS 1353 A.H., 1354 A.H. AND 1355 A.H. ... 89

E2.—PRINCIPAL EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FOR THE YEARS 1934 A.D., 1935 A.D. AND 1936 A.D. ... 90

F.—PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO THE STATE OF KEDAH 91

Digitized by Google

STATE OF KEDAH.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF KEDAH FOR THE YEAR A.H. 1355 (24TH MARCH, 1936 TO 13TH MARCH, 1937).

CHAPTER I

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Kedah is a Malay State on the West Coast of the Malay Peninsula. It is bordered on the interior by the Siamese States of Songkhla and Patani, and by the State of Perak (Federated Malay States); it extends northwards on the sea coast to the River Sanglang, its boundary with its northern neighbour, the State of Perlis (under British Protection); and southwards to the Muda River, its boundary with Province Wellesley in the South; thence the State extends East of Province Wellesley to the northern bank of the Krian River, which forms its boundary with Perak.

The State includes the Island of Langkawi and a number of adjoining islands, of which Pulau Dayang Bunting is the largest. The mainland of Kedah is about 105 miles in length, and at its widest part is about 65 miles in width. Its area, including the Langkawi group of islands, is about 3,660 square miles. It is situated between the parallels of 5.05 and 6.40 North Latitude and the meridians of 99.40 and 101.10 East Longitude. The two highest peaks of the mainland are Gunong Jerai—better known as Kedah Peak (3,978 feet)—and Bukit Perak (2,823 feet). Gunong Raya on Langkawi Island is 2,888 feet high.

The Southern and Central area of the State consists mainly of undulating land broken up by ranges of high hills. This area is principally occupied by large rubber plantations.

Digitized by Google

The Northern and coastal belt contains the finest rice growing area in Malaya: 246,315 acres were planted last year with wet rice. The Eastern area along the Patani border is still largely undeveloped and contains reserves of well watered land in small valleys between ranges of hills consisting of granite, quartzite and shales, with one small limestone outcrop at the junction of Sungei Kawi and Sungei Muda in the Ulu Muda Forest Reserve, suitable to small holdings.

The capital of the State is Alor Star.

CLIMATE.

The features characteristic of the climate of the West coast of the Malay Peninsula—uniform temperature, high humidity and copious rainfall—are characteristic of the climate of Kedah also, except that in this State, especially in the North and in the Langkawi Islands, there is a well defined dry season lasting usually from about the middle of December to the middle of March. During the first half of this dry season the nights are exceptionally cool and refreshing. In normal years a plentiful supply of rain followed by a favourable drying season renders the climate in the North eminently well-suited to the growth and harvesting of padi cultivated in such a large portion of this area.

The average rainfall is smallest in the Alor Star District in the North, and largest in the Kulim District in the South.

The mean temperature during the year ranges from about 71° to 92°.

HISTORY.

There are references to a country which is identified as Kedah in the works of Arab voyagers of the 9th Century A.D., and in the Chinese chronicles of the T'ang Dynasty (618—916 A.D.), but little is known of its history before the 15th Century, except that it was famous for tin, that its people were Buddhists and that the predominant influence was Indian. At the end of the 15th Century the Ruler was converted to Islam, and there is a Kedah tradition that the "Nobat" or drums which are an insignia of royalty were obtained from Sultan Mahmud, the last Sultan of Malacca.

Digitized by Google

The Portuguese Barbosa, in a manuscript dated 1516, described Kedah as a place in the Kingdom of Siam to which "an infinite number of ships resort, trading in all kinds of merchandise"; but Siamese influence did not save the country from attacks by the Portuguese (in 1611 A.D.) and the Achinese (who carried the Ruler into captivity in 1619 A.D.). In 1641 A.D. the Dutch East India Company obtained a concession under which the Ruler allowed them half the tin production of the country at a fixed price, and agreed not to admit ships without permit. But the temptation of the profits from Kedah's trade with India on the one hand and, on the other, the difficulties of enforcing the concession, even after a series of blockades of the rivers, owing to the distance from Malacca, were too great; and the monopoly supposed to have been given and acquired was little more than nominal.

There is ample evidence of 17th Century English trade with Kedah by private merchants as well as the East India Company, which for some years maintained a trading base in Patani, and this trade continued until the Dutch in 1683 forced the English Company to concentrate on India.

During the 18th Century Kedah came under the influence of the Bugis who held power in Selangor, and it was to secure assistance against them that the Sultan of Kedah, in 1771, approached Francis Light.

In 1786 A.D. Captain Light concluded an "Agreement with the King of Quedah for the cession of Prince of Wales Island". Penang was occupied and the British Flag was hoisted there on the 12th August, 1786. The Agreement was modified by a Treaty in 1791, whereby the Kedah Government was to receive $6,000 every year from the Honourable East India Company "so long as the English continue in possession of Pulo Pinang". In 1800 the strip of coast territory now known as Province Wellesley was ceded to the Honourable East India Company in return for a further $4,000 per annum. These annual payments are still made by the Straits Settlements Government.

In 1821 the Siamese invaded the State of Kedah and divided the State into four parts: Setul, Perlis, Kubang Pasu and Kedah, placing each under a separate Ruler. In 1843, the Sultan of Kedah (who, after his escape to Province Wellesley in 1821, had lived in retreat in Malacca) was allowed to return to Alor Star, and to reassume the rulership of Kedah. Setul, Perlis and Kubang Pasu, however, remained under their separate Rulers, who were made independent of the Sultan of Kedah.

Digitized by Google

Kubang Pasu is a sparsely populated district on the Northern border of Kedah, between Kota Star and the Songkhla frontier. When Tunku Anum, the Raja of Kubang Pasu, died some years later the Siamese Government allowed the district again to become part of Kedah. It is now administered by a District Officer. The Raja of Perlis is independent of the Sultan of Kedah, and has an entirely separate Government. Setul is now a part of Siam.

His Highness Sir Abdul Hamid Halim Shah, K.C.M.G., ibni Sultan Ahmad Tajudin, the present Sultan, succeeded to the throne in the year A.D. 1881.

On the 23rd July, 1905, the Sultan issued an Edict appointing a Council of State to assist in the "Administration of all Public Affairs".

On the 10th March, 1909, the Anglo-Siamese Treaty was signed whereby the suzerainty of Kedah was transferred from Siam to Great Britain.

In 1913, in consequence of the indisposition of His Highness the Sultan, his eldest son, His Highness Tunku Ibrahim, C.M.G., C.V.O., was proclaimed Regent.

On the 1st November, 1923, at Singapore, a Treaty was signed between the British and the Kedah Governments, by which the Kedah Government agreed to "continue to be under the protection of His Britannic Majesty, who shall exercise the rights of suzerainty", and also to accept a British Adviser.

The brother of His Highness the Sultan, His Highness Tunku Mahmud, K.B.E., C.M.G., who had been officiating as Regent during the illness of His Highness Tunku Ibrahim which proved fatal on the 30th April, 1934, continued in that office throughout the year.

In May, 1934, the title of Raja Muda, which had been in abeyance for 25 years and which had formerly attached to the brother of the reigning Sultan, was revived, but was bestowed upon the Heir Apparent, the eldest surviving son of His Highness the Sultan, His Highness Tunku Mohamed. On the latter's demise in March, 1935, His Highness Tunku Badlishah, C.M.G., succeeded to the title.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER II

GOVERNMENT.

CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE.

The State of Kedah is governed by His Highness the Sultan with the assistance of a State Council consisting of His Highness the Sultan (in present circumstances His Highness the Regent) as President, and three other Malay members as well as the British Adviser. The three Malay members are selected by name or office by His Highness with the approval of His Excellency the High Commissioner. By mutual consent of His Excellency and His Highness additional members may be added to the Council for any specific period.

All legislation is passed by the State Council and all questions of any importance in the administration of the State are referred to the State Council, which sits at least two or three times every month.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

For the purposes of local government, the State is divided into nine districts in each of which there is a Sanitary Board consisting of officials and of unofficials nominated by the President of the State Council. The unofficials are selected so as to represent the various races and interests in each district. The Sanitary Boards are the Sanitary Authority in the towns and larger villages. They are responsible for street lighting, scavenging, rating, and the administration of the sanitary and building bye-laws. A separate Committee, of which the Adviser Lands is Chairman, deals with major questions of town planning.

The State is divided into health areas under the control of a Central Health Board, which is responsible for health matters in the rural districts.

In order to ensure greater uniformity the District Licensing Boards have been re-constituted, and there is now one Central Licensing Board for the whole State with additional members for each district.

There is one Waters Board for the whole State which deals with questions of irrigation and drainage.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER III

POPULATION.

The total population at the Census of the 1st April, 1931, was 429,691, an increase of 26.9 per cent over the figure of the 1921 Census. In the decade previous to 1921 the increase had been higher (37.7 per cent), but the demand for immigrant labour for large scale rubber cultivation in Southern Kedah began to slacken somewhat about 1921. In spite of the continued arrival of foreign labour, the racial composition of the population has remained less affected by such infiltration than that of Johore or any of the Federated States. The following table shows the distribution and percentage to total according to the Census Report 1931, together with the estimated population and distribution at mid-year, 1936:—

	Population April 1st, 1931	Percentage of Total	Estimated Population Midyear 1936
Malays and other Malaysians...	286,262	66·6	313,871
Europeans	411	0·1	625
Chinese	78,415	18·3	83,840
Indians (predominantly Tamils from Southern India)	50,824	11·8	52,612
Others	13,779	3·2	12,956
Totals ...	429,691	100 %	463,904

In previous years the figures of population have been estimated by the process of geometrical progression but since 1354 the method of balancing equation has been used. The Malay section is now estimated to comprise 68%, the Chinese 18% and the Indians 11% of the total as compared with the respective percentages of 67, 18, 12 in the 1931 Census and 70, 18, 10 in the 1921 Census.

A study of the population figures for the various districts of the State shows all to be predominantly Malay except the Kulim, Bandar Bahru and Kuala Muda areas.

By far the largest part of the population is engaged in agriculture.

The urban population consists mainly of Chinese, Malays occupying the kampongs and the Indian population living on estates and in the towns. It is estimated that,

Digitized by Google

while over 50% of the Indian community is located on rubber estates, only some 6% of the Chinese and 4% of the Malays so reside.

Only three urban areas have a population of more than 5,000. Of these Alor Star, with its estimated population of 24,621, may be said to be a Malay town and Sungei Patani and Kulim Chinese centres of population.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER IV

HEALTH.

The Annual Report of the Medical Department is based on the Gregorian Calendar and the figures given hereunder are in respect of 1936.

The year can be said to have been a healthy one in general. No epidemic manifestation was observed and no case of major communicable diseases (cholera, small-pox, plague) occurred.

The considerable increase of malaria over the normal average of the State reported for the year 1935 was not repeated during 1936.

Birth Rate: The number of births registered in the State was 18,683 (1,970 more than in 1935), giving a crude birth rate of 39.5. This means an increase of 3 per mille over last year. 8,982 of the births were females and 9,386 males. Malay births were about 4 times the number of Chinese births and about .7 times the number registered by other communities.

Death Rate: The number of deaths was 10,683 (384 more than in 1935), giving a crude death rate of 23. This rate shows a slight rise over last year's rate but the considerable movements of Indians and Chinese labour diminish the significance of this figure.

The principal causes of deaths amongst persons of all ages are shewn by the following table expressed in approximate percentage of crude deaths:—

Fever unspecified	36
Malaria	12
Premature birth	10
Convulsions	10
Old age	10
Respiratory disease (excluding Tuberculosis)	6
Others	16

Infantitle Mortality Rate: The infantile mortality rate, that is the number of deaths under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births, was 145, and an improvement of 3 per mille over the previous year.

Digitized by Google

The principal causes of death, expressed as approximate percentages of total infantile deaths, were:—

Premature Birth	31
Convulsions	32
Fever Unspecified	20
Diagnosed Malaria	2
Bowel Disease	2
Pneumonia	5

The highest rate was again shewn by the Indian Community (170) but this year the lowest was taken by the Chinese (135), the Malays being (148). The Malay rate has appreciably increased (136 in 1935).

Early Deaths: Early deaths and sickness in early life stand out far too prominently. Some 45% of the deaths in the State apparently took place in the 0—20 age period, while over 25% occurred during the first twelve months of life. The large amount of ill health which must have occurred coincidently with these deaths must be a leading cause of indifferent health and permanent physical defect of many of the survivors in their later years, a fact which has been amply borne out by the examination which has been carried out in various areas during the year in connection with the Health and Malarial Surveys of the State.

Communicable Diseases: The following table indicates the incidence of reported communicable disease by nationality for 1936:—

Diseases	Malays Deaths	Chinese Deaths	Indians Deaths	Non-Asiatics Deaths	Others Deaths	Total	
						Cases	Deaths
Fever unspecified ...	2,909	537	124	...	131	?	3,701
Malaria ...	756	241	171	2	28	?	1,198
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	103	...
Enteric ...	9	3	3	...	...	38	15
Dysentery and diarrhœa ...	75	71	70	...	4	315	220
Influenza ...	40	9	5	...	4	970	58
Diphtheria ...	...	6	...	...	...	12	6
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	22	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	31	2
Leprosy ...	...	...	...	...	...	59	1
Pneumonia ...	33	55	119	...	...	554	207
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	36	73	54	...	3	?	166
Puerperal Fever ...	224	41	20	...	6	?	291
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	8	1
Tetanus ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Tropical Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	3	...

Digitized by Google

Malaria and unspecified fevers: Diagnosed malaria accounted for some 1,198 deaths or 12% of deaths from all causes as compared with 4% in 1935, while 4,899 deaths or 46% of the total deaths recorded were reported as due to malaria and fevers of undefined origin (46% in 1935). The death rate per mille from possible fever causes remained at 13: 13: 8 for Malays, Chinese and Indians.

No epidemic of malaria is to be recorded, although a study of the special investigations carried out in the State during the year will clearly indicate that endemic and even hyper-endemic areas exist.

The three largest towns continued to be controlled in part, while certain dangerous areas elsewhere were subsoiled and certain small populations dealt with by drug prophylaxis. Any cases reported from amongst these controlled populations were carefully investigated.

These figures and facts show that there has been a definite decline in the incidence of this disease during the year under review, and this is amply borne out by a study of the returns from estates, the latter being the only source of the statistical information available for comparison purposes. It appears from these to be clear that the very considerable peak reached during the 1934—1935 period—the culminating point of an apparent wave—is now receding.

There is no doubt that better and wider control on estates by anti-larval and drug prophylaxis must effect the comparative yearly figures in the controlled areas of the State. It is nevertheless certain that this disease still remains the most important cause of sickness and death in this State. A special study was made of "paddy" malaria. When it is realised that some 240,000 acres are entirely given up to rice cultivation in Kedah, that this State is by far the most important producer in this connection in the Malay Peninsula, that rice is one of the main foods of the local population, and that the cultivation is carried on in close proximity to important centres of population, its bearing on the malarial problem becomes one of considerable magnitude and importance.

The organisation of the Anti-Malarial Department commenced during 1935 was continued during the year. By the end of the year it consisted of a Chief Inspector, a Dissector, 2 Probationer Inspectors, a Field Assistant, two permanent and two temporary Mosquito Collectors a considerable increase in the two collectors only available at the end of 1934.

Digitized by Google

An attempt was made to carry out all work on modern and research lines as far as possible. Thus mosquito trapping and dissection were features of all investigations.

A considerable amount of permanent Anti-Malarial work was undertaken during the year. A highly dangerous seepage ravine near the main hospital in South Kedah (Kulim) was thus very satisfactorily dealt with at a cost of some $3,500; much old subsoiling work was renewed and extended in South and Central Kedah and a scheme in operation in North Kedah was improved. This type of work—the ideal in hilly country—will be continued as funds permit. Chemio-Prophylaxis was continued at the frontier Customs Station at Bukit Kayu Hitam, at a certain Public Works Department cooly line and a Malay Kampong in highly malarious areas and on an increasing number of estates.

The following procedure was adopted for the Government staffs concerned:—

(*a*) A five day course of Atebrin (3 tablets of 0.2 grams daily) and Plasmochin (1 tablet of 1/16 grams daily) to those with positive bloods or 30 grams Quinine B'hydchl, daily for seven days. (Respectively adults: children in proportion).

(*b*) Follow up drug treatment during the malarial season of 2 tablets of Atebrin on 2 consecutive days (0.4 grams daily) per week or 6 grams Quinine B'hydchl, daily. (Adults: children in proportion).

No ill effects were observed and excellent practical results were obtained.

Mosquito dissections rose from Nil in 1934 and 1,343 in 1935 to 9,805 during the year under review. Blood examinations rose from almost Nil in 1935 to 11,506 in 1936. Spleen examinations (apart from rubber estate examinations) increased from 4,470 in 1935 to 16,573 in 1936.

No attempt was made to control mosquito nuisance. No efforts will be made in this direction, or are indeed possible, until malarial control has been much more carefully investigated and advanced.

10,377 cases of malaria and unspecified fever on Estates were reported in 1936 as compared with 18,200 in 1935.

Digitized by Google

On European Holdings the case incidence per mille fell from 473.6 in 1935 to 264.6, while the malarial death rate fell from 3.2 per mille to 2.5. The Hospital admission rate for all fever cases rose from 47.6 to 55.7. This is a trend in the right direction but is still far from satisfactory. 13.2% of the total deaths were caused by malaria. Case fatality per cent for hospital cases was 1.6 compared with 1.1 in 1935 while the lines fatality rate fell from 0.27 to .1%. It may be said that this is a much more satisfactory position than that of the previous year.

Though for various reasons discussed in previous reports statistics from Asiatic Holdings are difficult to interpret, yet one or two points emerge. While the total population on these holdings has fallen by 2,000 (due to closure of those estates preferring to sell their coupons rather than tap), hospital admissions have increased from 361 in 1935 to 381 in 1936, the total cases notified remaining at approximately the same figure. In other words, in a year of low malarial incidence, Asiatic Holdings from a decreased population reported the same number of cases of malaria and admitted a higher percentage for hospital treatment. This would appear to indicate a better notification and an increased use of the Group Hospitals.

Allowing that 40% of the population employed were kampong residents who do not record their vital statistics in these returns, the corrected malaria death rate is in the region of 3 per mille. Lines fatality rate is still far too high.

For every 1,000 cases treated in the lines on European Holdings 1 died, compared to 23 on Asiatic Holdings.

It may be said however that in the year under review there was an improvement (which is being steadily maintained) in the care of the sick on the Asiatic Holdings.

HYGIENE AND SANITATION.

A. *Sanitary Board Areas.*

There are nine districts so defined in the State (including one in Langkawi Island). These cover the main population centres and so act as Town Boards. Each area has been specifically gazetted and the full sanitary control allowed by the existing law can be exercised in each.

Sewage Disposal: Action was taken during the year to see that every house, including kampong houses, wherever possible, was supplied with a Sanitary Board type latrine.

Digitized by Google

The improved supervision schemes approved at the end of last year commenced to operate.

Finally consideration is now being given to proper lorry removal schemes with bucket washing and a double bucket system for the larger towns, while for Alor Star some sewage removal scheme on even more modern lines is under examination as the high level of subsoil water always present in this area makes satisfactory night soil trenching a difficult and expensive project.

It is thus seen that an important move in the right direction was made in the year under review. It is hoped that the further very marked improvement foreshadowed in this most important section of town hygiene will be an accomplished fact by the time the next Annual Report is written.

The standard type of latrine approved for the State last year was made to replace the several types in use previously, and all pits were closed.

Refuse Disposal: The new incinerator for Sungei Patani completed towards the end of last year continued to give satisfactory results, while a new plant was approved for the capital, Alor Star. Work will commence on this in the near future. Incinerators were also completed for some of the smaller Sanitary Boards during the year.

" Controlled tipping " was tried out in Alor Star at the request of Government, but proved a failure owing to the flat nature of the countryside, the high level of subsoil water and the peculiar nature of the clay soil which created a pungent smell on excavation. Fly nuisance also resulted partly from lack of proper supervision. This method is being continued in smaller and more suitable areas with more success, however, but entire success and absolute freedom from danger are problematical.

The new public dustbins designed last year with concrete standings continued to be installed, and each house holder was requested to supply himself with a definite type of small bin. Rubbish was removed by lorry or bullock cart from all houses and removal schemes were reorganised. A definite progress is thus to be recorded in this section.

Water Supplies: Although no actual improvement has been effected to the water supplies to the main centres of population, considerable attention was devoted to the subject during the year under review owing to the inability to obtain a stabilised water.

Digitized by Google

As only eight of the largest towns and villages together with the rural population surrounding them and living along the pipe lines receive a piped water supply from upland streams, a very limited portion of the people of the State are thus supplied.

Food in relation to Health and Disease:—

(1) Markets.

Improvements and additions were carried out in certain smaller markets, while those operating in the larger towns received considerable attention, being enlarged and partially reconstructed. An improved type of stall has also been designed for use in all markets.

(2) Slaughter-houses.

Action was taken in conjunction with the State Veterinary Surgeon to improve the slaughter-houses to be found in all the larger Sanitary Board areas, while in Alor Star it is proposed to rebuild those in existence on modern lines.

(3) Cattle Sheds.

Very few cattle appear to be kept in urban areas. The sheds in existence were removed to a Controlled Building Area and made to conform to sanitary requirements.

(4) Restaurants and Eating Shops.

All these were subject to examination and licensing, and a definite and considerable improvement is to be recorded with regard to their sanitary condition during the year. Action was taken to eliminate the temporary shop as far as possible in this connection as it has been found impossible to render such premises continually sanitary.

(5) Street Stalls.

Street stalls caused the usual trouble in control but action was taken to eliminate the most unsatisfactory, while the rest were made to conform to the bye-laws and also to confine themselves to certain specified areas. All are now licensed and examined at regular intervals. While a lot still remains to be done to enforce continued sanitary satisfaction, conditions in this respect may be said to have definitely improved.

Digitized by Google

(6) Hawkers.

It has now been ruled that all food hawkers will be licensed as from next year, and a bye-law has been passed to this effect. It is hoped by such means to keep the numbers within bounds and to enforce a reasonable sanitary standard in food production.

(7) Unlicensed Food Premises.

Such manufacturing premises as aerated water works and ice factories are unlicensed and so are difficult to control. Legislative control is now being sought.

(8) Bakeries.

Action was taken to enforce more stringent regulations with regard to all bakeries and to eliminate the really unsatisfactory premises. In Alor Star a proposal is on foot to provide a special area and type of premises for all bakeries.

B. Government Departments.

Police stations and other Government Quarters were inspected as circumstances and staff permitted. Sanitary improvements were indicated to the heads of the various departments concerned as required. The majority of those visited showed a reasonable sanitary standard, but water supplies often offered difficulty, unsatisfactory wells being frequently encountered.

C. Kampong and Rural Areas.

The special report (now being printed) by Dr. W. J. Vickers, Acting Senior Health Officer, and Dr. J. H. Strahan, Health Officer, entitled "A Health Survey of Kedah with special reference to Rice Field Malaria, Nutrition and Water Supplies", includes a full consideration of the problems of Hygiene and Sanitation in Kampong and Rural Areas.

This report, the record of the first investigation of the kind to be carried out in a Malay State, is profusely illustrated with photographs, maps and charts, and is at once full of interest and a mine of information. The Kedah Government has already expressed to the Authors in person its high appreciation of the fine work which, at the sacrifice of their own private leisure for many months, they have accomplished, and I welcome this opportunity of a more public acknowledgment. The two Doctors record that as

Digitized by Google

their survey progressed its interest caused it to become almost an amusement: since the report makes most interesting reading even to the layman one can understand the fascination with which the professional men began to realize that by their pioneer work in Malaya " elements of essential importance to the public health might be elucidated ", as they modestly put it.

With regard to " Rice-field " Malaria, the conclusion is that on the flat coastal and northern plain, where some 120,000 people are concerned with the cultivation of rice, in spite of the presence of the anopheline vectors of malaria A. barbirostris and A. hyrcanus Pallas, malaria is (fortunately) at present a disease of little importance. Nevertheless, since the investigation showed that some danger of epidemic spread does exist where concentrations of population are concerned, the situation will always require watching. The more serious problem at present is the hilly land cut by many ravines in the Centre and South where some 80,000 people, in scattered areas, are engaged in rice cultivation and where A. maculatus is added to the anopheline vectors. It is these people who contribute mainly to the 4,899 deaths (or 46% of the total) recorded in 1936 as due to malaria and fevers of undefined origin. The action recommended is a wide extension of the " travelling dispensary and dresser " organisation. Conditions in the Langkawi Islands are similar. The Doctors conclude that Malaria is endemic in Kedah, that while Estate populations (one-tenth of the whole) are well controlled, and Urban areas receive some attention, Rural populations are largely uncontrolled, and add

> " Some 60% of the total population appear to be out of reach of existing organisation. In case of epidemic explosion this section is the danger zone. A skeleton scheme is in operation. An extension of this appears to be urgently called for. A five per cent district infection rate should be aimed at."

The report contains interesting information and important statistics regarding Health and Diseases in general. While it is comforting to think that Small-pox had been absent since 1932 it is alarming to read that the estimate of the unvaccinated population is as high as 15%. As propaganda against Intestinal Disease, owing to the danger of infection from bare feet, education in the wearing of shoes is advocated. While Malaria is the main cause of sickness and death in the State, Helminthic infestation and Diarrhoea conditions and Food deficiency help to form " a vicious triumvirate ", the foundation of the ill-health of the people. Rural control in pregnancy and childbirth is also an urgent necessity, to meet which steps are being taken.

Digitized by Google

The chapter on Nutrition, which is certainly of no less interest, finds that the diet of the Malay is deficient in energy value, in good class protein and in Vitamin B: especially in the remoter areas. The physique of the Malay in the coastal and rubber belt is better than that of his jungle brother.

From their investigation of Water Supplies the Authors conclude that some 75% of the population is without any form of protected water. Certain improvements are suggested and a further investigation is recommended.

D. Industrial Hygiene.

Altogether 895 visits were paid to 427 estates compared to 920 in 1935. Thus 81% of all estates on the visiting list were inspected. Quarries worked by contractors for the Public Works Department and Federated Malay States Railways were added to the visiting list during the year along with a few small estates which had hitherto escaped inspection. Out of the total of 523 estates on the present register, 88 are European controlled and 435 Asiatic controlled.

29 new sets of lines were erected during the year. These were of the single row type (raised or ground floor) or of the cottage type in groups of 4. One large estate has commenced a complete new programme of 60 rooms cottage type. Three estates have colonies of Malay Kampong houses for Malay labour. These are very popular but a better standard of sanitary arrangements is required. 159 lines were repaired.

The following table gives an approximate idea as to the quantity of water supplied to labour on European Holdings with the corresponding figures for 1935:—

No. of Estates		Approximate Population		Water Supply
1935	1936	1935	1936	
5	6	3,319	4.081	Chlorinated supply.
15	17	5,525	9,229	Piped supply from catchment areas.
7	7	4,263	3,753	Jewell filters from various sources.
51	15	21,804	7,800	Piped supplies from protected wells.
...	35	...	11,003	Protected wells.
4	2	708	250	Supplies open to pollution.
4	5	...	...	Estates closed or separate divisions incorporated in the larger estates.
86	87	35,619	36,016	

Digitized by Google

Recommendations for three chlorination plants and 8 requests for further well protection were made, exclusive of a chlorinated supply for one Group Hospital.

Septic tanks have been installed on 10 estates against 8 in 1935. The Bucket system has decreased from 27 to 19 in favour of trench or bore-hole latrines which have correspondingly increased. One estate has large septic tanks for disposal of the night soil from bucket latrines. Recommendations were necessary for one septic tank system, 3 new sets of latrines and proper night soil disposal on two occasions.

45 estates practise anti-larval control as against 40 in 1935, while 6 practise anti-larval control and Chemio-Prophylaxis. Seven estates practise Chemio-Prophylaxis only.

During the year 16 Rice Mills, 8 Sago Mills, 2 Tin Mines were visited. Recommendations and orders where necessary have been made to bring Rice Mills up to the standard expected on rubber estates.

As far as possible reasonable sanitation in Sago Mills is secured. It was necessary to threaten to close 2 mills to secure obedience. There are only 2 Tin Mines of sufficient size to warrant routine inspection. They comply with reasonable standards.

School Inspection.

45 Malay Vernacular Schools were visited as compared with 38 in the previous year. 19 non-Government schools were also visited.

The following figures give the remediable, preventable diseases found in these schools:—

(*a*) Total number of children on registers of Vernacular Schools	5,414
Total number of children inspected ..	4,690
(*b*) Total number of children on registers of non-Government Schools	364
Total number of children inspected ..	189

Digitized by Google

Diseases	Number of Cases in (a)	Percentage	Number of Cases in (b)	Percentage
Spleen ...	298	6·35	5	2·65
Anaemia ...	64	1·36	3	1·59
Not vaccinated ...	96	2·05	...	...
Eye diseases ...	7	·15	...	...
Ear diseases ...	4	·09	...	...
Scabies ...	425	9·06	13	6·88
Other skin diseases ...	10	·21	...	...
Yaws ...	31	·66	1	·53
Caries (Class I) ...	447	9·53	19	10·05
,, (,, II) ...	413	8·81	20	10·58
,, (,, III) ...	387	8·25	16	8·47

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The following figures give some of the work performed by the Lady Medical Officer during the year:—

Visits to Homes:

1st Visits	428
Revisits	1,036

Outpatients Department, General Hospital:

1st Attendance	896
Repetitions	1,044

Malay Women's Clinic:

1st Attendance	427
Repetitions	795

Town Dispensary, Alor Star:

1st Attendance	2,465
Repetitions	3,209

Other Outstation Dispensaries:

1st Attendance	482
Repetitions	231

Digitized by Google

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

The following table gives the number of cases treated at Out-door Dispensaries, as well as number of cases treated by the Travelling Dispensaries:—

Out-door Clinic, Hospital, Alor Star ..	11,386
Out-door Dispensary, Alor Star Town ..	21,889
„ „ Changloon	2,453
„ „ Kuala Nerang ..	5,657
„ „ Yen	9,327
„ „ Jitra	2,124
Malay Women and Children Dispensary, Bakar Bata	1,222
Out-door Clinic, Hospital, Sungei Patani ..	6,597
„ „ „ Baling	4,725
Out-door Dispensary, Sik	3,174
„ Clinic, Hospital, Kulim.. ..	8,835
„ Dispensary, Bandar Bahru ..	2,371
„ Clinic, Hospital, Langkawi ..	4,265
„ Dispensary, Padang Matsirat ..	1,978
Motor Travelling Dispensary, North Kedah	14,104
„ „ „ Central Kedah	6,133
„ „ „ South Kedah	5,687
Travelling Dispensary, Langkawi ..	822
Prison Hospital Clinic, Alor Star ..	6,135
„ „ „ Sungei Patani ..	1,514
Total ..	120,398

Digitized by Google

The following table gives the number of Indoor sick treated during the year in the various Hospitals and Prison sick wards:—

Hospital:

Alor Star	6,555
Sungei Patani	5,968
Kulim	4,499
Baling	387
Langkawi	672

Prison Sick Wards:

Alor Star	79
Sungei Patani	—
TOTAL ..	18,160

The admissions of Kedah mental patients to the Central Mental Hospital, Tanjong Rambutan, for the last 7 years were:—

1930	80
1931	73
1932	59
1933	71
1934	76
1935	93
1936	87

LEPROSY.

51 cases were reported as compared with 67 in 1935.

The admissions to the Asylums during the last 7 years were:—

1930	25
1931	42
1932	33
1933	23
1934	31
1935	61
1936	51

Digitized by Google

Concluding Remarks.

There are in Kedah five Government Hospitals, at Alor Star, Sungei Patani, Baling, Kulim and Kuah (in the Langkawi Islands) with 300, 285, 28, 200 and 63 beds respectively.

A new up-to-date Town Dispensary at Alor Star and a new admission ward, with dispensary and laboratory attached, at the District Hospital, Kulim, were completed during the year.

A set of store rooms at the General Hospital, Alor Star, and quarters for various officers were nearing completion at the end of the year.

At each of these Hospitals there is an Out-door Dispensary as well as at Alor Star, Kuala Nerang, Changloon, Jitra, Yen, Sik, Bandar Bahru and Padang Matsirat (Langkawi).

The North, Central and South Districts are each provided with a Motor Travelling Dispensary, by which regular visits are made to villages, schools and police stations accessible by road. The Assistant Medical Officer or Dresser at Kuah visits all villages in the Langkawi Islands monthly, by sea or road.

The Health Board organisation in Kedah deals with estate labour, and there were four group and eight estate hospitals under its control during the year. Estates with a planted area totalling 207,221 acres were covered by the Board's medical and hospital services, and in addition the officials of the Board controlled certain anti-malarial schemes throughout their areas.

With the provision of the above facilities, it is claimed that the great majority of the more easily accessible inhabitants of the State now have an opportunity of sharing in the benefits of modern medicine.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER V

HOUSING.

This question may conveniently be treated under four heads.

(A) Housing of the agricultural population in the rural area.

(B) Housing in the urban areas.

(C) Housing of labourers on estates.

(D) Housing of Government servants.

(A)—Housing of the Agricultural Population in the Rural Area.

In the case of Malays and Siamese the housing may be said to be entirely satisfactory. The house-holder almost invariably owns his own house and generally also the site on which it is built, though in some cases a small ground rent, seldom more than $1 a year, is paid to a land owner.

The house will usually follow the customary type which has become fixed by experience. It is built of materials easily obtained locally, raised from the ground on hard wood piles, roofed with attaps, with flooring and side walls made of planks in some of the more prosperous houses, or of split bamboo and woven bertam leaves in the poorer less permanent type. The usual plan provides for an open front verandah, two or three separate rooms, a raised platform at the back leading to a covered cooking place. This type of house is cool, airy, dry and healthy, and would be difficult to improve on. Latrines are either non-existent or unsatisfactory. On the higher land, pit latrines are possible, but till they can be properly built and supervised it is doubtful whether they are any real improvement on the present primitive customs. In the vast areas of permanently flooded rice areas a suitable type of latrine is even more difficult to devise. With slight modifications the Siamese type of rural house follows the Malay type, but is longer and narrower.

The Chinese small agriculturist and vegetable planter or small shopkeeper sticks somewhat obstinately to the type of house to which he has been accustomed, a very primitive hut raised from the ground, with a floor of beaten earth. He is more concerned with making money

Digitized by Google

rapidly than with satisfactory housing. On the other hand his better and more varied diet and the care which he takes to boil doubtful drinking water makes up for his more indifferent housing conditions.

(B)—Housing in the Urban Areas.

Kedah is an agricultural State, and the only towns are:—

Alor Star (estimated population 24,621).

Sungei Patani (estimated population 10,123).

Kulim (estimated population 7,505).

These small towns and a number of villages are controlled by Sanitary Boards. In addition, all areas where any considerable building expansion may reasonably be expected are included in Controlled Building Areas, to which a limited number of the sections of the Sanitary Board Enactment apply.

In the towns and villages the normal type of building is the two-story shophouse with a frontage of 20 feet and a depth of 80 feet. Twenty-five per cent of the area must be kept as an open space. The main difficulty experienced in Sanitary control is the erecting of unauthorised cubicles and the blocking up of open spaces and ventilation air wells. The more recently constructed town houses are well built, provided with back lanes and not overcrowded. In Alor Star an area of the old town near the river is definitely unsatisfactory, the buildings are insanitary and overcrowded. A layout has been prepared, and gradually the most unsatisfactory blocks of shophouses are being demolished.

(C)—Housing of Labourers on Estates.

The housing of labourers on estates is adequately supervised by the Protector of Labour and Health Officers, and the requirements of the Labour Code are fulfilled. The usual type is a long line of barrack quarters, with suitable provision for married labourers. Wells and latrines are adequate.

Digitized by Google

(D)—Housing of Government Servants.

The senior Government servants and senior subordinates are in most cases provided with very adequate and well-built quarters.

The labourers employed by Government and also the lowest grade subordinates are also adequately provided with well-built barrack quarters.

There is however a shortage of suitable quarters for the clerical and middle grade subordinate staffs. Large reserves of land in the principal centres have been put aside for that purpose, and a few quarters are built every year.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VI

PRODUCTION.

Though there is no legislation for any form of insurance against unemployment and consequently no reliable records, it can safely be said that in Kedah there was work for all who wanted it. The increasing prosperity in the rubber industry gave more employment to immigrant Southern Indians and Chinese. With regard to Malays, the number employed as labourers in Government departments and on rubber estates increased during the year by approximately 197. While a few estates have permanent Malay labour forces who live in houses or lines provided by the estate the majority of the indigent Malay population own land and work for wages only when driven to it by necessity or the urge for minor luxuries. The latter usually live in their own kampongs and their habit of turning out for work only when it suits their convenience makes them an unsatisfactory type of labour. Most Managers speak very highly of their permanent Malay forces and their turnout and work is in no way inferior to that of a good South Indian labour force.

There were no serious industrial disputes during the year. A few cases of stoppage of work by small gangs of labourers were settled by the intervention of officers of the Labour Department.

Industrial accidents numbered 58.

MINING.

The export of minerals in tons was as follows:—

	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351
Tin-ore	... 420	295	187	164	168
Wolfram	... 185	163	98	36	95

A new International Agreement for the control of the production of tin and tin-ore came into force on the 1st January, 1937 (that is, towards the end of the Kedah fiscal year), and the consequent redistribution of the Malayan quota resulted in Kedah's share being reduced from 333 tons of metallic tin to 301 tons. The exportable quota which was 90% at the beginning of the year had been raised to 100% at the end.

The price of tin averaged $102.98 per picul.

Digitized by Google

Revenue from mines (inclusive of export duties) was $60,161 compared with $48,598 in 1354. Expenditure decreased slightly from $4,603 to $4,592.

Six applications were received for general Prospecting Licences, and one for an Exclusive Prospecting Licence. Approval was given for only one general licence to prospect for wolfram. Three applications for Mining Leases were approved comprising an area of 863 relongs (612 acres). Three leases and one provisional lease expired and were not renewed: one was cancelled for failure to pay rents. The total area held under lease at the end of the year was 6,030 relongs (4,281 acres), compared with 7,493 relongs (5,328 acres) last year.

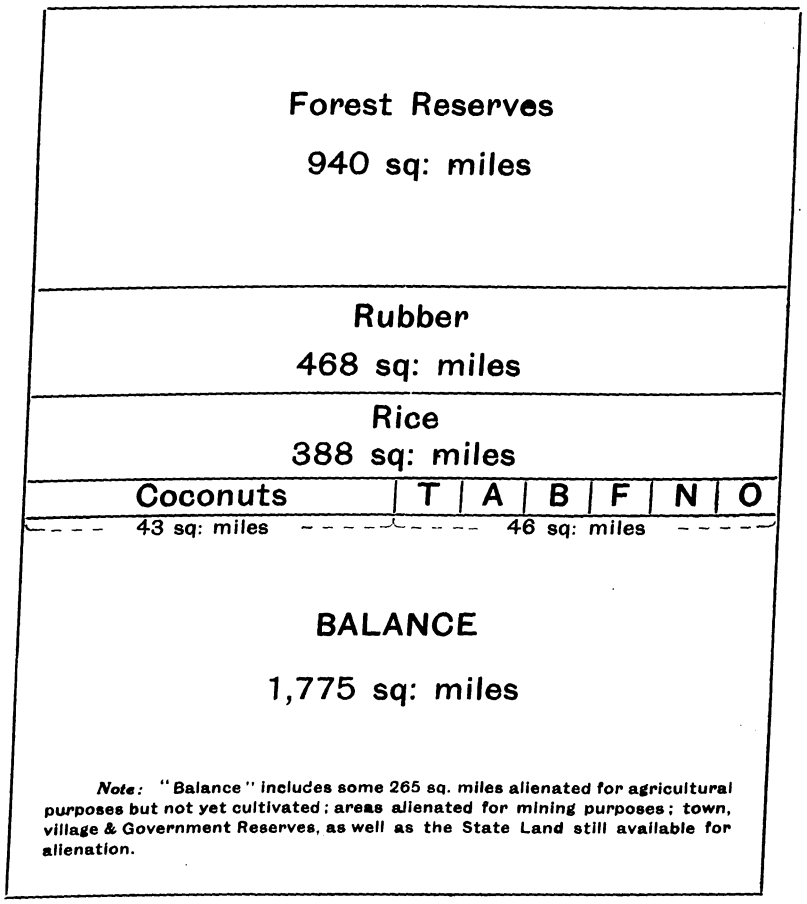
Mining was carried on by 12 concerns, their methods comprising dredging, gravel pump, shafting, open-cast, and hydraulicing. The only dredge in the State produced approximately 5/7ths of the State's output. The number of labourers employed rose from 408 to 632, and machinery aggregating 717 horse-power was in use.

Digitized by Google

CHART SHOWING AREAS UNDER CULTIVATION, FOREST RESERVES, ETC.

AREA OF STATE = 3,660 sq: Miles

AREA OF MALAY RESERVATIONS = 1,956 sq: Miles



Note: "Balance" includes some 265 sq. miles alienated for agricultural purposes but not yet cultivated; areas alienated for mining purposes; town, village & Government Reserves, as well as the State Land still available for alienation.

Reference

T = Tapioca	6,568 acres	O = Others i. e.	
A = Areca-nut	5,292 ,,	Tobacco	390 acres
B = Banana	3,108 ,,	Pineapple	513 ,,
F = Fruit Trees	4,826 ,,	Sweet Potato	418 ,,
N = Nipah	3,744 ,,	Tea	700 ,,
		Coffee	882 ,,
		Sago Palm	769 ,,
		Ground Nut	225 ,,
		Chilli	309 ,,
		Kapok	337 ,,
		Ginger	86 ,,
		Sireh	192 ,,
		Vegetables	763 ,,

Digitized by Google

AGRICULTURE.

Padi and rubber are the chief agricultural products of the State, and the areas under these crops were 248,030 acres (approximately 388 square miles) and 299,786 acres (approximately 468 square miles). Other crops of commercial importance are coconuts (27,700 acres); tapioca (6,568 acres); arecanut (5,292 acres); banana (3,108 acres), and fruit trees of various kinds (5,339 acres). Tea, tobacco, coffee, chillies, ground-nuts, sago, sweet potatoes, sireh, ginger, kapok and vegetables are extensively planted, and are of considerable economic importance.

Rice: Rainfall was recorded in all districts but one as being above average, but irregular in occurrence, and resulting floods were partly responsible for the decrease in the crop harvested. The total yield for wet and dry padi was estimated at 82,218,652 gantangs compared with last season's record of 96,360,344, and this in spite of the fact that the area planted with wet padi, 246,315 acres, was the largest ever recorded. Following the floods in September, 1936 (Rejab, 1355) a severe outbreak of stem rotting fungi occurred over a large part of North Kedah, and to a smaller extent in Central Kedah. The total area affected was estimated at 8,333 acres, and the severity of the disease varied considerably: in some areas only 25% of the crop was reaped, in others 75%. On the other hand, drought was experienced over some 628 acres, Langkawi Island suffering most heavily with 483 acres affected, and the crop reaped was reduced to 50%.

The area planted with dry padi was again reduced, the total being 1,715 acres compared with 1,923 acres for 1354.

The yields per acre were 334 gantangs for wet padi, and 213 gantangs for dry padi.

The following table shows the area planted with wet and dry padi, and the crop reaped during 1344 and the past five seasons:

Season	Relongs	Acres	Crop in 1,000 gantangs	Average yield per	
				Relong	Acre
* 1344	233,897	166,067	32,780	140	197
† 1351	316,999	225,069	75,502	238	335
† 1352	343,350	243,778	94,020	274	386
† 1353	336,336	238,798	90,575	269	379
† 1354	347,064	246,416	96,360	278	391
† 1355	349,338	248,030	82,218	235	331

* = Estimates based on Penghulus' returns.
† = Estimates based on crop cutting tests and Penghulus' returns.

Digitized by Google

The total crop of padi converted into terms of rice was equivalent to 119,852 tons. The requirements of the population of the State, allowing one pound of rice per head per day, would be 76,527 tons, leaving a calculated surplus for export of 43,325 tons.

During the first four months of the year (covering from April to July, 1936) the price of padi was fairly constant between $11 and $11.50 per kuncha (160 gantangs). In Jemadilawal (August) there was a fall of 50 cents a kuncha followed by a general improvement which continued until the end of Shawal (January, 1937), the range being $11.50 to $12.50. In Zulkaedah (February), when the demand among local millers was at its highest, the price rose to $13.50 per kuncha, but soon fell away again, and at the close of the year (March, 1937) stood at $11.50 to $12 per kuncha.

The price of rice was rather lower than for last year at 19—20 cents per gantang.

Two new power driven rice mills were built and commenced working during the year. There are now 17 mills in the State.

In addition to the stem rotting referred to above, some comparatively slight damage was done to crops by stem-borers, rats, pigs and fresh water crabs. Hunting, trapping and poisoning for rats, fencing and "drives" for pigs, hand collecting and trapping for crabs succeeded in keeping the damage from these pests within bounds.

Selection, manurial and cultivation experiments with padi, and crop trials were carried out by the Agricultural Department in the local experimental stations.

Large quantities of padi seeds of selected strains were produced for distribution to growers both in and out of the State.

The short account of rice planting which follows is adapted from an article written some four years ago by Mr. W. N. Sands, then of the Kedah Agricultural Department.

The great alluvial plain on which the bulk of the wet rice is grown follows the sea coast of North Kedah and has a length of 40 miles and a breadth of from 8 to 14 miles.

Digitized by Google

In March, when the two to three months dry season is drawing to an end, the area is one vast expanse of brick-hard clay, split and cracked by weeks of tropical sun. The stubble left after the last harvest has been burnt and both fire and sun have added their share of vitality to the land. In places the water table may have sunk to a depth of nearly ten feet.

By the end of April, a month which brings more generous rains, the plain becomes a scene of great activity. Thousands of men are busy repairing the low bunds (about a foot high) which divide the plots, so that they will conserve the rain water on which the new crop will depend. For Kedah rice lands rely entirely for their water on the rainfall, and the 225 odd miles of controlled canals only serve to hold up the rain water and let it off gradually when it is no longer required. Meanwhile the cattle are happily eating their fill of the fresh green vegetation and already begin to lose the starved appearance which shortage of fodder in the dry season has given them.

By the end of May, water is lying on the ground to a depth of one or two inches and the land is soft enough for ploughing. A single handled light wooden plough with an iron shod share is used: the land is ploughed and cross ploughed to a depth of three or four inches and thus the volunteer rice and weeds are turned in. The fact that the straw and stubble had been burnt makes the ploughing lighter work.

A month later, when the weeds have rotted in the water, a ten or twelve pronged tin or wooden rake is drawn over the land until all weed growth is destroyed and the surface is sufficiently broken down. Some of the water is then let off, if necessary, and the surface rolled with a wooden fluted roller five feet long and a foot in diameter. The plough, rake and roller are each drawn by a single buffalo, the padi-planter's faithful ally, or (a slower process) by a pair of oxen.

In July, before raking and rolling can be completed, the nursery beds are prepared. From these small and well bunded areas the water is drawn off and seed, which has been soaked for two nights, is scattered. About twenty lbs. of seed for every acre to be planted are required. As the seed germinates water is gradually let in until by the 44th day when the seedlings are 12 to 18 inches high and ready for transplanting, its depth is from 4 to 6 inches.

Digitized by Google

There are few more brilliant or beautiful splashes of colour in nature than these yellow-green nurseries lit by the setting sun. The planter with sufficient capital will once in three years dress his land with about 1,000 lbs. of bat-guano (which fortunately is found in great quantity in the caves in the local limestone hills) to the acre at a cost of a penny for 17 lbs. Those who cannot afford even this small outlay dip the seedlings, which have been hand pulled and tied in bundles, in a thick paste of guano and water the evening before planting out.

In August with transplanting the women's work begins. The women work in gangs of from 10 to 20, and each carries a two foot iron rod with a bent wooden handle at one end and two short fork-prongs at the other in which they catch two or three seedlings just above the crowns thrusting the roots two or three inches into the soft muddy soil, 15 to 18 inches apart. They are adept at their work and soon cover a large area. A week or so later any vacant holes (excessive rain, or crabs or other pests may cause vacancies) are supplied: and for another month occasional weeding, by hand or a short scythe, is carried out between the plants.

By early December the plants are in flower, resembling oats, and as the water is gradually let off turn from a rich green to a golden yellow. By mid January the grain is ready for harvesting, which is done by hand, the workers in groups using a short sickle with serrated edge, or a small knife, something like an axe-head in appearance, held between the first and second finger: when the latter is used only about 4 inches of stalk is cut. Threshing is usually done in the field, into a large tub with sides and back shielded by palm leaf. The steady North East wind which usually blows at this time of the year makes winnowing easy. The grain is poured slowly into a circular large meshed bamboo sieve and as it falls through the husks and unfilled grain are blown aside while the sound grain falls on to a palm mat. The final winnowing is done from flat bamboo trays held in the hand, after which the grain is dried in the sun on a large mat. It is then bagged and the surplus not required for home consumption or seed is ready for sale to the Chinese miller. Home requirements for the year are stored in a large bin of flattened bamboo raised off the ground on posts as a protection from damp and rats. This store is drawn on as required and the grain is pounded with a wooden mortar into a rough pestle until the glumes are removed: the vitamins, which are lost in polished rice, are thus retained.

Digitized by Google

When the straw and stubble have been burnt the planter has nothing more to do until the April rains arrive.

Roughly two thirds of the crop harvested is sufficient to supply the rice requirements for the whole State, and the balance which is exported suffices for some 250,000 people in other parts of Malaya. What the individual planter makes, over and above his own requirements, depends of course on a number of circumstances. A holding of two acres (and the average is about twice that) will keep a family of six in rice: for part of the year the water on the holding will provide a number of small fishes: for a month or two manna descends from heaven in the shape of snipe sent by Allah from China to help the family budget. Round the house there will probably be a few coconut and other fruit trees: poultry may be kept, and there may be room to plant a few vegetables: the cattle may provide a certain amount of milk. The Co-operative Department is doing everything possible to rid the planter of the habit of, and necessity for, mortgaging any surplus crop to the miller in advance. And a co-operative mill has been started in one locality; and societies now assist the planter to hold his padi for sale at a favourable price instead of disposing of it at a low rate immediately after harvest. The Weekly Malay Markets give the careful house-wife a chance of selling surplus produce herself. Kedah rice on the open market compares in price with Burma rice, and a small import duty on padi helps the planter to get a fair price for his padi from the mill. By no means the least help the planter has received in recent years has been from the Agricultural Department and its experimental stations (in which he takes the keenest interest) which have been instrumental in increasing considerably his yield per acre.

Though in comfortable circumstances by comparison with his jungle brother who plants hill padi, the planter of the great alluvial wet-rice plain is by no means well off: but he contributes freely and willingly from what he has to charity as is his bounden duty according to the tenets of his religion.

Rubber: At the close of the year the areas under rubber were:

Large estates	.. .. ..	204,129 acres.
Small estates	.. .. ..	95,656 acres.

Of the above some 16,664 acres, principally on large estates, were of budgrafted stock.

Digitized by Google

At the beginning of the year (April, 1936) the price of smoked sheet was $33 per pikul, and of unsmoked $31. During the following two months the prices came down to $31.50 and $29.50 respectively, then a steady increase was had throughout the remainder of the year, as these figures show:

Rabialakhir (July, 1936) $34.50: $32.50;

Shaaban (November, 1936) $36.00: $36.00;

Shawal (January, 1937) $48.20: $45.00;

Zulhijjah (April, 1937) $47.50: $46.25.

Records taken in the main rubber growing districts show that a decreasing number of small holdings were left untapped. It was estimated that 27% were untapped at the close of the year compared with 37% at the end of the first quarter. There was a noticeable improvement in the general condition of small holdings, and members of the Agricultural Department endeavoured by demonstrations and lectures to improve methods of control of disease, and the manufacture of sheet rubber.

Less severe methods of tapping, improved conditions and more regular treatment of the disease rendered mouldy rot much less widespread and serious than in previous years. Leaf mildew (oidium heveae) was not serious, and control of pink disease was effectively maintained.

Coconuts: The area under this crop, the greater proportion of which was interplanted with other crops on small holdings, was estimated at 27,700 acres.

Copra prices rose considerably in the latter part of the year from an average of $3.50—$4.50 per pikul to $6.25 at the close of the year. (In Shawal (January, 1937) $9 per pikul was offered). These prices stimulated interest in the manufacture of copra, and several new kilns, some of approved designs others crude, were erected.

Tapioca: The estimated area under cultivation at 6,568 acres was 147 acres less than in 1354. The price of sago ranged from $4 to $6 per pikul, while roots fetched 30—40 cents per pikul. No improvement was noticeable in the quality of the products, due chiefly to the lack of supplies of clean water for washing the starch in its course through the mills.

Digitized by Google

Tobacco: The planted area at the end of the year was only 390 acres compared with 691 at the beginning, in spite of the fact that the average price for cured leaves was higher than for 1354. The increased price of rubber and the greater attention paid to rubber holdings was undoubtedly responsible for this decline in the tobacco planting. Of the total area planted 203 acres were in Baling district which had 11 small factories in the trade.

Agricultural and Livestock Exhibition: A very successful exhibition was held over a period of three days in Rabialawal (June, 1936) in Alor Star, which provided for exhibits of agricultural products, rubber, livestock, village and school handicrafts, and commercial and departmental exhibits. In addition to these a special exhibit of a model Weekly Fair was organised. All sections were well supported and the standard of the majority of the exhibits was good, winning exhibits from various sections being forwarded to the Malayan Agri-Horticultural Exhibition in Kuala Lumpur.

School Gardens: The number of school gardens maintained during the year was 74, and two schools owned small padi fields. The majority of the gardens were well looked after, and a variety of vegetables grown.

Frequent visits were made by the subordinate staff of the Agricultural Department, and teachers and boys were advised on matters concerning the cultivation and care of the crops.

At the Annual School Gardens Competition held in the Kuala Muda district 13 schools took part, and Pinang Tunggal school won first prize, Gurun and Bujang being second and third respectively.

Weekly Fairs: There are now 35 fairs in being, the majority situated in North Kedah where the Malay population predominates.

The Wednesday fair at Alor Star continues to be the most popular of all, and a better site than the old one was chosen and permanent stalls erected during the year. It was feared that the increasing price of rubber would be reflected in a loss of popularity of the fairs. It is gratifying to be able to record that this fear was so far from being realised that in many places accommodation had to be enlarged to allow for the increased quantities of produce brought for sale.

It was estimated that the annual turnover from all fairs increased by about $111,400 to $495,400 or 29%.

Digitized by Google

LIVESTOCK.

The animal census of livestock shewed a slight increase in the numbers of buffaloes from 62,330 to 62,903, and a decrease in oxen from 66,834 to 62,957. There were also enumerated 136 sheep, 30,415 goats, 35,059 pigs and 50 horses.

Kedah is completely self-supporting in meat, and though the reduction by some 6,248 head of oxen over a period of two years is a matter of importance, it is hoped that a further and more serious decline will be checked by means of recently introduced legislation to control the slaughter of breeding cows.

The export of buffaloes, oxen, goats and pigs from Kedah, which was stimulated during 1354 by the prohibition of import into any part of Malaya of Siamese stock, was maintained during 1355, but the resumption in the second half of the year of the Siamese trade shewed in a gradually decreasing export of local stock. The actual export figures for the past two years were:—

	1355.	*1354.*
Buffaloes	2,280	2,697
Oxen	1,559	970
Goats	2,345	1,713
Pigs	4,007	2,742

Prices for local stock exported remained high, as much as $80 to $100 being frequently paid for good buffaloes and $40 to $50 for oxen. The value of all the livestock (buffaloes, oxen, goats and pigs) exported from the State for slaughter and other purposes in various parts of Malaya is estimated at nearly $300,000 or £35,000.

Included under animal by-products exported are the hides and skins of animals slaughtered within the State. The preparation and sale of hides is a local industry conducted wherever slaughter takes place, the dried cattle hides and salted goat-skins then being disposed of to a few agents (mostly Chinese) who transport them to Penang and arrange for their export abroad. The total export during 1355 was 1,309 pikuls hides (value $16,620) and 422 pikuls skins (value $4,318).

There were no serious outbreaks of disease during the year. Sporadic cases of rabies continue to crop up with almost uncanny persistency, and muzzling and shooting orders were in force in the State throughout the whole year.

Digitized by Google

An outbreak of swine fever occurred in Bandar Bahru district, in South Kedah, but was confined to a very small area. 35 animals, mostly young or suckling pigs, died or were slaughtered on account of the disease.

Seven cases of piroplasmosis and two of trypanosomiasis were discovered on routine examination of blood smears, and it is thought that the incidence of these and other protozoal diseases is fairly widespread.

The Selective Cattle Breeding Enactment was in force throughout the year, and a total of 1,326 oxen and buffaloes, mostly calves, were sterilised. There is considerable passive resistance to this work among stock owners, principally in regard to buffaloes as they hold the opinion that castration by preventing the development of the hump and other masculine characteristics renders them less able to work. In the majority of cases there is no objection to the castration of oxen, and as a sufficient number of buffalo calves has now been sterilised to allow for forming conclusions later as to whether this theory has any foundation in truth, the sterilisation of buffalo calves is not being so seriously urged as that of oxen. No attempts were made to compel owners to submit their animals for treatment, it being considered that eventually more good would result from example and demonstration.

Legislation was introduced in 1354 to forbid the export of female cattle under 15 years old, and the slaughter within the State of those under 12 years old. The export and slaughter of many old female cattle which would otherwise compete with younger and better stock for the scanty pasturage available would be welcomed. The full benefits of this legislation cannot be looked for until there are more good pasture areas available for use. Much of the 10,400 acres gazetted as pasture reserves is still under jungle and therefore not yet suitable for the purpose intended.

Great keenness was shown by stock owners to enter their animals for the Agricultural and Livestock Exhibition, and the standard of the prize winning animals was high, more particularly in the buffalo classes. The oxen, by reason of the different strains of breeds in their make-up, showed greater variation in types than did buffaloes, but nevertheless the class as a whole indicated that Kedah can produce cattle of a high standard for meat and work. The exhibits in the goat and fowl classes showed that there is much room for improvement in the quality of local stocks.

Digitized by Google

Work on an experimental livestock breeding station was started during the year, but unfortunately the question of anti-malarial protective measures was greater than at first anticipated, and work had to be suspended pending a solution of the problem.

ESTATE LABOUR.

The labourers on rubber estates are mainly Indians recruited from Madras Presidency, but there are a considerable number of others as shown in the following table.

Indians	22,209
Malays	7,074
Chinese	2,698
Others	84
Total ..	32,065

These figures show an increase of 1,607 over those for last year, and this can be attributed to the increase in the exportable allowance under the Rubber Regulation Scheme.

The employment of labourers was recorded on 624 estates, as compared with 671 for the previous year. The main reasons for this reduction were the sale by many smaller estates of their export rights (they consequently employed no labour), and the amalgamation of some of the larger estates.

During the year 241 adults, 52 minors and 25 infants received assisted passages from India—a total of 318 compared with 796 in 1354.

All labour in Kedah is free, and immigrants are at liberty to leave their employment at any time on giving a month's notice. Indian immigration is controlled by the Indian Immigration Committee, an organisation covering the whole of Malaya. Conditions of labour generally are supervised by the Department of Labour under a Protector of Labour seconded from the Malayan Civil Service.

During the year 233 routine inspections and 23 special visits were made to places of employment by the Protector of Labour and Labour Inspector.

Digitized by Google

Again there were no serious disturbances or stoppages during the year. The few cases which occurred of stoppage of work were enquired into by the officers of the Labour Department, and their advice was accepted by the parties concerned. 789 complaints were registered, many of them trivial, and almost all were settled departmentally. 32 convictions were obtained for breaches of the labour laws. Health Board schemes are in operation for the provision of hospital accommodation and medical services for labourers employed on estates of over 70 relongs (50 acres). The provisions of these schemes are carried out by Group Associations of employers formed for that purpose. In the case of estates which have not yet joined associations the Health Board contracts for the necessary services with the associations and recovers the cost from such estates by means of cesses.

The death rate among all labourers was 3.80 per mille, and for Indian labourers alone 5.06, as compared with 6.96 and 9.93 respectively in the previous year.

The ratio of adult male Indian labourers to adult female Indian labourers was 2.03 : 1 at the end of the year. Last year's ratio was 2.23 : 1.

There were 8 Government Toddy Shops, 7 Public Shops and 84 Estate Shops (on 60 estates) licensed during the year, as compared with 5, 10 and 82 last year. The State Licensing Board, of which the Protector of Labour is a member, deals with licensing matters for the whole of Kedah.

FORESTS.

The Jerai, Relau and Sawak reserves of 21,800, 3,381 and 5,176 acres respectively were finally constituted and, at the close of the year, the total area of reserved forests was 601,624 acres representing 24.6 per cent of the State. In addition, 82,796 acres, preliminarily notified, were awaiting constitution and the reservation of a further 62,087 acres had been approved by State Council. Most of this area has been reserved for protective purposes and with existing and contemplated facilities for extraction only one-fifth will be available for timber production.

The number of forest offences was 385(173), of which 125(43) were taken to court. The remaining 260 cases were dealt with departmentally and fines amounting to $966.50 (818) were imposed. 123 of these cases were concerned with illegal occupation and the felling of forest on State land. The Forest Enactment and Rules were revised during the year but have not yet been submitted to Government.

Digitized by Google

With the exception of keruing in Central Kedah there was no general fruiting during the year. 891 acres were opened to regeneration improvement fellings during the year and 739 were re-treated at a cost of $3.50 (4.45) and $2.67 (2.80) respectively; the reduction in cost is largely due to the introduction of poison-girdling. An area of 4 acres in Relau reserve under tapioca was interplanted with seedlings of damar minyak.

The three existing sawmills were in operation during the year and a fourth was under construction at its close. The outturn of all classes of timber and fuel was 2,140,090 cubic feet, the outturn under timber (728,451) and poles (219,203) showing increases of 108,173 and 131,454 cubic feet respectively over the figures for the previous year. Of the total outturn, only 16 per cent was derived from reserves.

It proved more economical to dispose of damar temak locally and there were no transactions under the damar suspense account during the year. The total revenue derived from all classes of minor forest produce was $5,517.88 (4,434), of which 21.5 per cent came from reserves; there was a marked increase in the outturn of jelutong.

(Note.—The 1354 figures are given in brackets for comparison).

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VII

COMMERCE.

The aggregate value of external trade for the year 1355 was $42,673,184 as compared with $35,631,886 in 1354, an increase of $7,041,298 or 20%. Imports were valued at $10,122,152 and exports at $32,551,032. This was a decrease in imports of $25,175 over last year but an increase in exports of $7,066,473 which was attributable directly to the export of rubber, tapioca and tin-ore. The returns show a balance of visible exports against visible imports of $22,428,880, last year's figures being $15,337,232.

The following table shows under the main heads the value of imports and exports for the past five years:—

Classes		Imports	Exports
		$	$
Class I.			
Animals, food, drinks and tobacco	1351 A.H.	3,027,257	3,584,183
	1352 „	3,550,230	3,219,899
	1353 „	3,964,357	3,689,705
	1354 „	4,053,115	4,701,170
	1355 „	4,282,540	4,302,488
Class II.			
Raw Materials and Articles mainly unmanufactured	1351 A.H.	300,009	6,504,945
	1352 „	351,695	16,463,094
	1353 „	326,114	21.816,677
	1354 „	375,333	19,020,248
	1355 „	475,459	27,483,217
Class III.			
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ...	1351 A.H.	3,371,530	470,490
	1352 „	4,314,811	440,915
	1353 „	4,735,898	385,085
	1354 „	5,716.783	1,763,104
	1355 „	5,348,834	765,222

Digitized by Google

Classes		Imports	Exports
Class IV.		$	$
* Parcel Post	... 1351 A.H.	...	...
	1352 „	...	...
	1353 „	...	...
	1354 „	96	37
	1355 „	260	105
Class V.			
Bullion and Specie	... 1351 A.H.	...	...
	1352 „	126	...
	1353 „	367	...
	1354 „	2,000	...
	1355 „	15,059	...

* In respect of Siam only.

The principal exports in 1355 were:—

	$
Arecanuts (1,833 tons)	152,052
Bran (5,238 tons)	144,425
Cattle (3,210 heads)	190,111
Copra (1,756 tons)	143,379
Eggs (10,055,289 in number) ..	182,456
Fish (1,550 tons)	151,938
Padi (12,880 tons)	405,960
Rice (36,451 tons)	2,034,039
Rubber (41,590 tons)	26,629,878
Tapioca Pearl (8,502 tons)	622,632
Tapioca Flour (3,618 tons)	61,145
Tin-Ore (421 tons)	524,700

The principal imports were:—

Chandu (5,348 lbs.)	169,651
Cigarettes (560,666 lbs.)	1,145,877
Coconut Oil (1,181 tons)	216,144
Coffee (687 tons)	149,071
Gunnies (9,320 bales)	93,179

Digitized by Google

	$
Kerosene (3,269 tons)	369,444
Liquors (77,345 gallons)	332,492
Matches (24,814 tins)	59,954
Milk, Condensed (41,588 cases) ..	338,359
Motor Spirit (5,689 tons)	1,166,125
Piece Goods (3,477,482 yards) ..	613,641
Rice (2,472 tons)	156,618
Sarongs, Slendangs and Kains (1,993,616 yards)	361,535
Sugar (8,351 tons)	499,633
Tobacco (312,556 lbs.)	263,658
Wheat Flour (2,114 tons)	166,420

The corresponding figures for the year 1936 were:—

Exports.

Arecanuts (1,763 tons)	138,889
Bran (4,938 tons)	132,714
Cattle (4,169 heads)	250,420
Copra (1,831 tons)	131,430
Eggs (11,265,124 in number) ..	206,670
Fish (1,456 tons)	122,143
Padi (15,843 tons)	484,130
Rice (35,902 tons)	1,979,802
Rubber (40,289 tons)	23,560,661
Tapioca Pearl (7,259 tons)	532,187
Tapioca Flour (5,005 tons)	165,730
Tin-Ore (413 tons)	506,048

Imports.

Chandu (5,565 lbs.)	181,061
Cigarettes (611,626 lbs.)	1,172,687
Coconut Oil (1,219 tons)	212,164

Digitized by Google

	$
Coffee (703 tons)	146,431
Gunnies (8,604 bales)	99,782
Kerosene (3,433 tons)	365,477
Liquors (73,576 gallons)	310,859
Matches (22,076 tins)	53,176
Milk, Condensed (44,531 cases) ..	339,145
Motor Spirit (5,664 tons)	1,089,765
Piece Goods (3,280,414 yards) ..	558,756
Rice (2,467 tons)	153,625
Sarongs, Slendangs and Kains (1,832,062 yards)	326,833
Sugar (8,569 tons)	513,418
Tobacco (293,875 lbs.)	261,754
Wheat Flour (1,629 tons)	158,079

A statement of imports and exports for the last three years is given in Appendices E1 and E2.

Since the re-organisation of the Statistics Office as branch of the Customs Department last year on the lines of the Colony Department, the reliability of its statistical returns has been well maintained.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VIII

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

At the beginning of the year wages for labourers throughout the State averaged between 35—40 cents a day for men, and for women employed on rubber estates 28—32 cents a day. Towards the end of the year in response to the general demand for an increase to meet the rise in the cost of living which was a natural corollary of the increasing prosperity of the rubber industry, standard wages for estate and unskilled labour rose to a minimum of 45 cents for men and 36 cents for women.

The wages paid to Malay tappers varied little from those rates.

There is no satisfactory means of collecting accurate information about the rates paid to skilled or semi-skilled labour in industrial concerns in Kedah. But the rates paid in the Public Works Department can be accepted as approximating to those paid in the open market. They vary, according to length of service and skill, between 30 cents and $3 a day.

Hours of labour vary considerably in trades, agriculture and Government departments. The first are comprised mainly of Chinese who, when under employers of their own race, may spend most of the daylight hours at their work. An employer may demand 9 hours' work under the Labour Code, but in actual practice few tappers on rubber estates work more than 7 hours and few weeders and other labourers more than 8 hours. For these hours they receive full rates. In Government departments 8 hours is the normal working day.

It was only natural to expect that returning prosperity should be reflected in an increase of prices. The staple food of the country is rice, and the price rose from 15 cents to 22 cents per gantang. Other articles of food which were dearer were:

Sugar (up 1 cent a catty);

Mutton (rose from 30 cents to 50 cents a catty);

Beef (rose from 20 cents to 35 cents a catty);

Poultry (rose from 10 cents to 20 cents a catty);

Eggs (rose from $1.00 to $1.80 per hundred).

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER IX

EDUCATION.

In pursuance of the scheme for developing vernacular education into Malay Secondary Education, to which reference was made in last year's report, two Standard VI Classes were opened at the principal District Head Schools. At these classes fees of $1 per mensem are charged, and as at the vernacular schools, books sold through the Education Office at half of cost price, are paid for by the pupils. The syllabus, which has a commercial and utilitarian bias, includes a training in shop-keeping and book-keeping at the Department's Shop in the Weekly Fair, and the teaching of Geometry by the practice of surveying areas and drawing plans of them to scale. Other subjects are also taught from a less academic stand point than in English Schools. English is not taught. Post-vernacular Education continued to make good progress; the first Carpentry Test for old Malay school pupils was held and both those who won Carpentry Certificates and those who have had to continue their apprenticeship have with rare exceptions continued at work as carpenters. In every case Malay boys serving their apprenticeship at pottery, batik-printing, weaving, and as silversmiths made most encouraging progress.

The methods, described in previous reports, by which English Education has been adjusted to local needs, has been rewarded by most satisfactory results. The figures which follow and relate to the Sultan Abdul Hamid College over a 5 year period tell their own tale; in 1351 the sum of $11,510 was collected in fees from an enrolment of 665 pupils of whom 5 Malays only passed the School Certificate and 5 the Cambridge Junior Examinations: during the last year $20,745 were paid in fees by 432 pupils of whom 15 Malays (100% of the candidates) passed the School Certificate and 30 Malays (81%) passed the Cambridge Junior Examinations. And whereas in the former year 61 boys were superannuated, during the last year 11 boys fell by the way. A total of 17 pupils of all races passed one or other of the Cambridge Local Examinations in 1351 as compared with 63 in 1355. There is in consequence an adequate but not more than adequate supply of English educated youths for Government service, and, were it not for the existence of a number of unaided private schools, the State would be free from the problem of the unemployable English educated boy who has failed to reach the School Certificate standard.

Digitized by Google

In the progress and successes of the students sent to England for higher education the year has also been full of encouragement. Of the two Malay students now at Cambridge, one is at Trinity and the other at Jesus College. Before going up to Cambridge they both spent several terms at English Public Schools and sat for and passed the Previous Examination. Two Malay students, one at Loughborough Technical College and one at Devonport Technical College, have both made good progress, and the student selected for higher education last year has passed his Previous Examination within six months of his arrival at Devonport and will go up to Queen's College, Cambridge, this year.

Government Vernacular Schools: Government schools remained at a total of 82, but the enrolment increased to 10,504 from 10,132 as a result of extensions to 3 schools.

Ten new buildings to replace old schools were completed in the course of the year, 5 new Head Teacher's Quarters were erected and many minor improvements, connected principally with sanitation and fencing, were carried out.

A fairly high standard of industry, accuracy, and thoroughness was attained in the work of most schools, and it is probable that, for their age, the boys in Standard IV are in Arithmetic and Handwork in advance of boys of the same age in England. The teachers, however, fail generally to teach to their classes as classes; clever boys make great progress; many others make too little. It is exceptional to find a teacher able to bring the majority of his class up to a good average standard. The conception that it is the pupil's role to be essentially passive and industriously receptive, and the teacher's role to do his thinking for him, and the object of both to produce a well dressed window for the inspectors is still deeply rooted. However, 65.4% (903 boys) of those examined passed the Standard IV Annual Examination as compared with 44% (610 boys) in 1354, and 69% (81 boys) as compared with 45 boys in 1354 passed the Standard V Examination. The maximum of 10 Scholarships, carrying free tuition, books, board, and lodging at Government English Schools as well as the sum of $2.50 per mensem were awarded.

The average percentage of attendance again showed a slight improvement being 88.5% as compared with 86.5% and 85.5% in 1354 and 1353. Malaria accounts for much of the irregularity of attendance, as also does the flooding of the countryside in rainy seasons. An average of 238 working days per school was recorded. The old Time-Table was

Digitized by Google

replaced by one more in accordance with modern educational pratice; that for the small boys allowing for shorter lessons and more frequent "breaks" than for older boys. For the latter the "break" interval was extended. In consequence school hours were from 8 a.m. to 12.40 p.m. instead of, as formerly, until 12.30 p.m.

Gardens were cultivated in 74 schools (73 and 69 in 1354 and 1353). Padi planting was done by 2 schools. Carpentry was practised at 16 schools, one new centre being opened at Kuah. Handwork was carried on at 54 schools as compared with 50 and 48 in previous years, and included the following variety of articles:—Earth, Minute Paper and Waste Paper Baskets; Bamboo, Coconut fibre, Lidi and Scrubbing Brushes; Soap, Verandah Blinds, Model Boats, Book-binding, Mengkuang Weaving (Mats, Sumpit Rokok. Baskets, Bags, Tudong Saji, Jak, Bujor, Terendak, and Topi); Rope; Coconut Shell carving. At the Malayan Agri-Horticultural Show at Kuala Lumpur, Kedah Malay Boys' Schools obtained a total of 27 points, being more than that of any other State or Settlement except Malacca.

In games 40 schools are now equipped with football grounds, 4 more than last year, and 4 new grounds are in course of preparation. A total of 115 matches were played in the North Kedah Inter-school Football League, and school league matches were held on a similar scale in South Kedah.

School Tuck Shops: The large number of inter-school football matches, often between schools situated at a great distance from one another, could never have been arranged if the profits of the School Tuck Shops had not provided funds from which to defray the transport expenses of visiting teams.

Tuck Shops existed at 80 schools and made a total profit of $2,162.41 ($2,005.72 in 1354) of which $1,015.44 remained unspent at the end of the year. The older boys take turn to run the shop; the accounts are made up daily. The cakes sold are made by parents who receive 80% of the money obtained by sales. Of the remaining 20% two thirds is retained by the school and one third given to the boy who is running the shop. As no cake costs more than one cent, it follows that approximately 1½ million cents have been handed across Tuck Shop counters during the year.

Staff: The schools were served by a staff of 409 teachers and 26 pupil teachers, and the Superintendent of Education was assisted in his inspection of them by a Malay Assistant Inspector and two Visiting Teachers.

Digitized by Google

New type of Malay School Building: The year saw, too, the completion of the first of a new style of Malay School, in which the building is divided into class-rooms but so arranged that the teachers are all visible to the Head Teacher from his own room.

Government Aided Vernacular Schools: Aided village schools increased by 5 to a total of 11 with an average enrolment of 937. The five had been in existence long enough to warrant their participating in the Annual Malay School Examinations. The results compared well with those of the Government Schools, 66% of the pupils in Standard IA being successful as compared with 78% in Government Schools.

The total number of teachers employed at these schools is 25; they are engaged by the Governing Bodies and are required to hold Standard V Certificates and on appointment receive Probationary Teachers' Certificates from the Education Department. Teachers with more than 2 years' service are required to be holders of Certificates of Competency from the Education Department, or to have obtained a year to year extension of their Probationary Certificates. The Governing Bodies receive Government assistance to the extent of $12 per mensem for every teacher, plus an allowance of $2 for Head Teachers.

An allowance of 75 cents per pupil has been approved by the Government as an additional grant towards the initial cost of the supply of school desks and benches.

English Schools: English Education is provided for boys at two schools, the Sultan Abdul Hamid College, Alor Star, and the Ibrahim School, Sungei Patani. The highest external examination for which boys are prepared is the Cambridge School Certificate at the College and the Junior Cambridge Certificate at the Ibrahim School.

Tuition Fees are $6 per mensem above Standard IV and $3 per mensem below Standard V. Boarding Fees at the College are $8 per mensem for the first two years and thereafter $3.50 per mensem for boys above Standard IV whose parents are not resident in Alor Star.

The Sultan Abdul Hamid College was divided in 19 classes including 1 Special Tutorial Class for overage and backward boys in which the fees are $10 per mensem. The average enrolment was 432, of whom 308 were Malays. The staff consisted of 4 European Masters (including the Head Master) and 18 Asiatic Masters. The average percentage of attendance was 96.2%. School was open on

Digitized by Google

187 days. Scouting, Association Football, Rugby, Cricket, Tennis, Hockey, Boxing, Gymnastics and Physical Drill and Carpentry were regular out-door activities. In its contests with other schools the year was an "annus mirabilis", spectacular victories in Rugby, Hockey and Soccer being recorded against the principal rivals of Penang and Perak.

The erection of a Science Laboratory at the College was commenced in 1355, and during the year the large extension to the Hostel, mentioned in last year's report, was completed. Although an extension, it was so planned as to form a complete unit in itself with its own kitchen, dining-hall, prayer room, studies, and bathrooms, so that boarders are now divided into two rival Houses existing independently of one another. European Quarters adequate for a married master were also built as an integral part of the extension. The new extension has provided accommodation for an additional 40 boys and by the end of the year the number of boarders had increased from 74 in 1354 to 100; the College thus became the largest boarding school for boys above the age of 11 in Malaya.

The results of the Cambridge Examinations in some respects constituted a new record over last year, itself a record year. 19 boys (90% of the candidates) passed the School Certificate Examination, 15 were Malays (100% of the Malay candidates). One candidate, a Malay, gained a Grade I Certificate and 9 Malays obtained Grade II Certificates. 44 boys out of 53 boys passed the Junior Examination. An outstanding feature of the latter examination was the high standard reached in Mathematics; 8 boys obtained the highest mark "Very Good", and 11 boys "Good". As 15 of these boys were Malays, as there were no Malay failures in Mathematics in the Senior or Junior, and as the teacher was himself Malay, there seems no evidence that Malays, as is sometimes supposed, are inherently weak at Mathematics.

The Ibrahim School, Sungei Patani, was divided into 8 classes of which the highest was the Junior Cambridge. The enrolment fell from 138 to 119 (173 in 1934). The Head Master was assisted by 8 Asiatic Masters. The average attendance was 94.5%. 8 boys out of 11 passed the Cambridge Junior and of these 5 were Malays. These are the best results so far achieved by this school.

Digitized by Google

Boy Scouts and Cubs: In the Malay Schools there were 319 scouts divided into 11 Groups among 20 schools. In the English Schools there were 110 scouts divided into 4 Groups. Cubs numbered 108 divided into 9 Packs, 7 of which are at Malay Schools. Over 400 cubs and scouts attended a Rally and Inspection held by the Commissioner for Malaya on 14th Jemadilawal (2nd August, 1936) who considered it to be the best Rally he had witnessed in Kedah. Every Scout Troop in turn, with one exception, held a Troop Camp of on an average 5 days duration at the Jeniang Permanent Camp.

Religious Instruction: The arrangements for religious instructions are in the hands of the Sheikh-ul-Islam. The Koran is taught in the buildings of the vernacular schools where all boys attend for 2½ hours on five afternoons a week from the time they enter the Primary Class until they leave the school.

Tamil Estate Schools: Thirty-three schools, as compared with 19 and 17 in previous years, were awarded grants totalling $6,319.50 ($1,751 in 1354 and $1,600 in 1353). The total enrolment of these schools was 1,070 (549 in 1354) of whom 65% were in the lowest or Primary class, as the parents seem to have little desire to use the schools except as infant nurseries.

GIRLS.

Government Vernacular Schools: These are 5 in number and provided accommodation for 478 pupils as compared with 449 in the previous year. The percentage of attendance rose from 87.9 to 91.5. Net-ball, ring-tennis, and badminton were played in four of the schools and at all physical drill was practised. The standard of work improved last year, and the needlework continued to be excellent. At the Kuala Lumpur Show the schools were awarded one First Prize, two "Very Highly Commended" and two "Commended". Beadwork and Mengkuang Weaving were also taught in all the schools. Physical Drill was practised regularly throughout the year, and much better attention was paid to the subject of personal and domestic hygiene.

All schools were examined in Shaaban, but for the first time the Standard IV girls took the same papers as the Standard IV boys, and the lower classes were given the same standard of examination as parallel classes in the boys' schools. Of all the pupils on the registers including all standards, 435 were examined as compared with 379 in

Digitized by Google

1354. The percentage of passes out of this total number examined was 68.5% (56.9% and 49% in previous years). Of those in Standard IV 83% were successful These percentages compare favourably with those of the boys' Schools.

The Kampong Bahru Girls' School: At this school, at which fees of $2 per mensem are charged, Malay only is taught during the first and second years. In the third year English is taught as a language but school subjects continue to be taught in Malay. In the succeeding years more and more subjects are taught in English.

The curriculum for the older girls has been designed to give them a background whereby they may become intelligent housekeepers and wise mothers. Most of their work has been framed in connection with a "Nursery Project" in connection with which Hygiene, Child Welfare. Needlework, Arithmetic, and Cookery have begun to be taught.

The high standard of needlework achieved in previous years has been well maintained, the school winning 3 First Prizes, and being awarded 1 "Very Highly Commended" and 1 "Commended" at the Exhibition at Kuala Lumpur.

The average enrolment was 37, and the average attendance was 90%. The European Head Mistress was assisted by a staff of 3 Asiatic Teachers of whom two are Malays.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER X

COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS, TELEPHONES AND WIRELESS.

Posts: There were 15 Post and Telegraph Offices, one Telegraph Office (at the Kepala Batas Aerodrome), and 5 Agencies in the State. There were 3,233,126 postal articles dealt with—exclusive of parcels and registered articles—an increase of 149,448. Registered articles and parcels numbered 123,410 and 16,315 compared with 120,617 and 16,386 in 1354.

Cash-on-delivery business is transacted at all the Post Offices. 67 articles were sent from Kedah, and 1,860 received. The trade charges on those received amounted to $23,278 compared with $23,221 last year on 1,916 articles.

Air Mails: The K.L.M. (Dutch) Air Service ceased to call at Alor Star early in the year. Air mail correspondence from Kedah to Europe and other countries West circulates via Penang, and to Australia and other countries East via Singapore.

Money Orders: The total money order business amounted to $1,349,998, compared with $1,156,344 in 1354. This included $13,130 from the sale in Kedah of British Postal Orders. 161 Telegraph Money Orders to a value of 24,677 Rupees were sent to India and Ceylon, a decrease of 6 orders but an increase in amount of 204 Rupees over last year. 4 orders valued at 790 Rupees were paid in Kedah.

Savings Bank: The number of depositors rose from 6,862 in 1354 to 7,987 in 1355, and the average amount standing to the credit of each depositor increased from $112.02 to $127.02. The total amount to the credit of depositors was $414,231, an increase of $6,928.

Telegraphs: The number of telegrams received, forwarded and transmitted were 45,994, 46,605 and 65,000 respectively as compared with 42,566, 42,133 and 51,090 in 1354.

Wireless: Communications between the stations at Alor Star and Langkawi were satisfactorily maintained during the year. 185 licences for receiving sets were issued, an increase of 80 over the previous year. 2 experimental transmitting licences were issued, but neither station had up to the end of the year commenced service.

Digitized by Google

Telephones: The number of subscribers at the end of the year was 620, a net increase of 46 on 1354 figures. There was an increase of overhead route mileage of 32 miles and of overhead wire mileage of 297 miles. 8 exchanges were worked by trained operators and 16 by the Police department.

SHIPPING.

The ports of Alor Star, Sungei Patani and Langkawi (Kuah) are visited by small vessels belonging to the Straits Steamship Company, Penang, and there is a considerable coasting trade of motor boats, junks, etc. Penang is the connecting port for ocean-going steamers.

RAILWAYS.

The Federated Malay States main line from Penang to Siam runs through Kedah from the South to the North and passes through both Sungei Patani and Alor Star. All stations are connected by road with the main road.

ROADS, ETC.

The total road mileage upkept during the year was 567 miles of which 401 miles consisted of metalled roads.

225 miles of canals were upkept. The canals are chiefly used for drainage, but many of them, in conjuction with the navigable rivers, also serve as valuable means of communication and transport.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XI

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

BANKING.

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation have branches at Alor Star and Sungei Patani respectively.

There are no Agricultural or Co-operative Banks, but loans are granted to members by various Co-operative Societies under the control of the Co-operative Societies Department.

The Kedah Government Savings Bank, administered by the Posts and Telegraphs Department, guarantees interest at 3%. The Bank's business showed a further increase during the year. The amount standing to the credit of depositors increased from $251,855.62 in 1352 to $363,299.35 in 1353 and from $407,303.47 in 1354, to $414,231 in 1355.

CURRENCY.

The unit of currency is the Straits Dollar, with a par value of two shillings and four pence.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The unit of weight is the picul (133 lbs.), which is divided into 100 katies. English and various Chinese weights are also used. The gantang (equivalent to a gallon) is the unit of measure, the kuncha and nalih being used for large quantities:—

1 Kuncha	=	160 Gantangs
1 Nalih	=	16 Gantangs
1 Gantang Padi ...	=	5 lbs. approximately
1 Gantang Rice (milled)	=	8 lbs. approximately

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XII

PUBLIC WORKS.

EXPENDITURE.

Expenditure during the year was $1,853,669 out of a total provision (including revotes and special warrant authorisations) of $2,378,997. The expenditure in previous years was:—

1353	$1,006,250
and 1354	$1,301,044

UPKEEP OF ROADS AND CANALS.

The mileage of roads maintained at the end of the year was:—

Metalled roads	401 miles 17 chains
Earth roads	118 miles 65 chains
Bridle paths	47 miles 1 chain

$326,678 was spent on upkeep of metalled roads, being an average cost of $814 per mile.

From this 49 miles 68 chains of road were remetalled at an average cost of $2,255 per mile, and 39 miles 72 chains were semi-grouted with asphalt at an average cost of $1,970 per mile.

Upkeep of the 165 miles 66 chains of earth roads and bridle paths cost $31,080, an average of $188 per mile.

225 miles of canals were maintained at a total cost of $33,846, local Malay labour being used.

UPKEEP OF GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

At the end of the year these totalled 1,396 valued at $7,471,027. During the year $98,319 was spent on repairs and repainting, equal to 1.37% of the estimated value—a low percentage.

During the year 69 buildings were added and 19 were demolished.

Digitized by Google

Roads and Canals—Extraordinary.

21 Works were completed, 8 were unfinished at the end of the year.

Works completed included the earth road from Jeniang to Sik, reconstruction of certain miles of Gua Chempedak—Bumbong Lima road, metalling of road to Kampong Tengah, widening of Langgar Road, and construction of various permanent culverts and bridges. Works in hand were metalling Tanjong Dawei Road, re-metalling Gurun—Bigia road and several bridge works.

Buildings and Miscellaneous—Extraordinary.

117 works were completed, 7 were deleted, and 41 were in hand at the close of the year. Among works completed were Extension to Hostel at Sultan Abdul Hamid College; Barracks for 32 married Police; Science Laboratory, Sultan Abdul Hamid College; Arabic School; Town Dispensary; all at Alor Star; various Hospital buildings; Enlargement of Market at Sungei Patani; Police buildings at Serdang; Sanitary Installations at Sungei Patani and Kulim and various Schools, Quarters and miscellaneous buildings throughout the State.

Among works in hand were New Government Offices, Volunteer Force Headquarters and Class III Quarters at Alor Star; Volunteer Force Headquarters at Sungei Patani, and a rifle range at Semiling.

Waterworks.

In South and Central Kedah the gravitation supplies operated throughout the year, as did also the Yen supply in North Kedah. The small gravitation supply at Langkawi ceased for several weeks owing to drought. Owing to drought and consequent shortage of water the gravitation supply to Alor Star from Bukit Wang had to be augmented by the emergency pumping and purification plant at Bukit Pinang. This pumping plant was operated for 2,535 hours during the year and supplied 111,395,000 gallons of water at a cost of 7.25 cents per 1,000 gallons supplied. The quantity of water pumped is almost twice as much as in the next highest year.

Special services were the raising of the Bukit Wang main; completion of Venturi meter on main at Jitra and a new 4″ main to Yen.

Digitized by Google

209 Private supplies and 19 Government supplies were installed.

With few exceptions supply to consumers—including Government Officers—is by meter.

The North Kedah supplies were inspected by the Senior Executive Engineer, Waterworks, Perak and Pahang, who made various recommendations for alteration.

AERODROME, ALOR STAR.

This was maintained at a cost of $3,760. Neither Imperial Airways nor the Royal Dutch Airlines make regular use of the ground now. The number of landings was 250 as against 428 the previous year.

EMERGENCY LANDING GROUND, SUNGEI PATANI.

This was maintained at a cost of $666. During the year 52 landings were made.

LABOUR.

The average labour force throughout the year was:—

Malays	1,153
Tamils	379
Chinese	21
Siamese	6
Others	7

Malay labour was generally plentiful throughout the year but one district especially mentioned irregular attendance and constant changes of coolies.

Tamil labourers are employed for the heavier works such as remetalling and asphalting which Malay labour is unwilling to tackle.

The minimum wages for all labourers engaged on Government work were in conformity with the general policy throughout Malaya.

Digitized by Google

PLANT.

Additions during the year were:—

4 Diesel engined lorries.

1 Morris petrol lorry.

4 8-ton Road rollers—Diesel.

4 4-ton Road rollers—Diesel.

2 2½-ton Road rollers—Diesel.

1 Stone crusher.

10 Tar boilers.

2 Austin 10 vans (for Monopolies and Customs).

The cost of the added plant was $75,419.

During the year a new motor launch "Langkawi" fitted with Diesel oil engines was purchased for Government use.

GENERAL.

Prices in North Kedah remained steady but in South and Central Kedah prices were reported to be definitely on the increase at the close of the year.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XIII

JUSTICE AND POLICE.

COURTS.

The judicial System consists of a Court of Appeal, a High Court, Magistrates Courts and Sharaiah Courts.

The Court of Appeal, composed of Judges of the Straits Settlements or the Federated Malay States, sits twice yearly to hear appeals from the First Division of the High Court. Special sittings are arranged if required.

The Kedah Enactments follow closely the Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code and Evidence Code of the Straits Settlements. The Civil Procedure Code is based on the Federated Malay States Code, but is in a much simplified form with variations suited to local circumstances. In matters of tort and contract the principles of law and equity in force in the Straits Settlements are followed.

The High Court is in two Divisions, presided over respectively by a European Judge and two Malay Judges. Proceedings are ordinarily conducted in the Malay language.

The powers of Magistrates are defined by the Courts Enactment.

Cases involving the Muhammadan religion are dealt with by the Sharaiah Courts, presided over by Kathis with jurisdiction under a special Sharaiah Courts Enactment.

Claims for injuries received by workmen in the course of their employment are dealt with under the terms of the Workmen's Compensation Enactment. The first Commissioner was appointed early in 1354.

Digitized by Google

POLICE.

Strength: The actual strength of the Kedah Police Force at the end of the year was 690 against an authorised establishment of 702 consisting of:—

Gazetted Officers (4 European 1 Malay) ..	5
Inspectors	17
Malay Subordinate Police Officers ..	116
Constables	462
Sikh Subordinate Police Officers ..	11
Constables	41
Detective Contingent	50
TOTAL ..	702

Recruitment: There was no lack of recruits possessing the qualifications of a height of 5′ 5″ and the Standard IV Certificate in the Vernacular School. Every recruit for the Uniform Branch was Kedah Born. There was a marked improvement in the standard and educational qualifications of detective recruits.

Health: The general health was good. There were 480 admissions to Hospital (472 last year) but only 33 men as against 50 in the previous year retired on grounds of health.

Discipline was more satisfactory. 297 cases of offences against discipline were dealt with as compared with 319 in 1354. These figures show a steady decrease from 513 cases in 1352.

Drill attained a high standard.

Reports: The Police received 16,010 reports of which 13,348 disclosed offences. Of these 1,244 were seizable and 12,104 non-seizable. The figure for seizable offences shows a steady decrease from 1,624 in 1352. 15,010 investigation papers were put up during the year. 30 reports were made which at some time during the investigation led to suspicion that a serious crime had been committed. Serious crime fell from 20 admitted reports to 14. This is a low record for the State and the figure shows a steady decline in such reports from 51 in 1351.

Digitized by Google

Murder and Robbery: The Serious Crime is divided into 2 cases of murder unsolved, 3 cases of gang robbery, in one of which a conviction was obtained, and 9 cases of robbery, out of which 5 led to convictions, 2 were solved but convictions were not obtained, and 2 remained unsolved.

The Commissioner of Police reports that one of the murder cases calls for remark. A Chinese child aged 8 was drowned with marks of strangulation. Strong suspicion attached to a Malay Magician, an unbalanced person who hoped to secure dominion over spirits by killing their hosts. He made a practice of burning animals alive for this purpose. Though seen in company with the deceased there was insufficient evidence to proceed against him.

House Breaking and Thefts accounted for 257 reports and other thefts for 653 reports. Both these figures show progressive declines from 1351 when the figures were 396 and 870 respectively.

The steady decrease in seizable crime is in a great part attributable to the mordern system of intensive investigation of all depredations. There is reason to hope that the present figures may be further reduced.

The total value of property reported lost in depredation (naturally an exaggerated figure) was $37,969, of which $10,077 was recovered. Though the depredations have risen by $5,000 the recoveries have almost doubled.

Seditious political activity was almost non-existent.

Registration of Motor Vehicles: The following comparative table gives the number of motor vehicles licensed:

	1351	1352	1353	1354	1355
Motor Cars, private ...	642	676	623	777	859
Motor Cars for hire ...	433	287	269	277	175
Motor Lorries ...	325	348	352	395	367
Buses	150	268	293	352	321
Motor Cycles ...	174	148	164	167	147
Total ...	1,724	1,727	1,701	1,968	1,869

Digitized by Google

Registration of Dogs: 8,644 dogs were registered as compared with 6,833 in 1354 and 7,346 unregistered dogs were destroyed.

Firearms: 3,663 firearms (of which 217 were pistols and revolvers) were licensed as against 3,723 in 1354.

Miscellaneous: During the year 151 investigations were made into cases involving sudden and suspicious deaths. 13 of these were due to the action of animals (6 being due to snake bites). 21 persons committed suicide.

There were 68 reported fires in which 67 wooden attap houses were destroyed and 16 bamboo houses. 3 of the fires were serious ones. One of the fires in Alor Star though it only did damage to the extent of $8,000 was so close to a petrol dump in the centre of the town that a very serious conflagration would have resulted had the fire brigade being less expeditious. The village of Titi Karangan was completely gutted, as was a quarter of the village of Changloon. The value of property destroyed was approximately $36,000, of which about $11,000 was covered by insurance.

The total number of accidents in which motor vehicles were involved increased to 247 as against 230 in the previous year. Of these 105 gave rise to death and injury. 8 persons being killed and 150 injured.

Information regarding licence fees etc. will be found on Chapter XV Public Finance and Taxation.

Revenue: There was a slight decrease in revenue, the collection of which amounted to $162,343; this was attributable to a decrease in motor vehicles of Kedah registration.

Expenditure: Expenditure increased (excluding cost of all clerical staff) from $434,376 to $434,858. The cost of the department works out at 94 cents per head of the population per year, or if the clerical staff is taken into consideration at 97 cents.

Replacements of Police Stations were made at Kepala Batas and Serdang and a new District Headquarter Station and barracks were erected at Baling. These were of the most modern concrete type and excellent in every way. A fine new block of married quarters housing 32 families was completed at Alor Star.

Digitized by Google

A new Fire Engine fitted with chemical equipment was supplied at Alor Star.

Aliens Enactment: The Police Department continues to operate the Aliens Enactment. 1,791 Entry Permits and 1,338 Certificates of Admission were issued. The Immigration Fund was in credit to the extent of $10,487 at the end of the year.

PRISONS.

There are two Prisons in the State, one at Alor Star for all grades of prisoners, and one at Sungei Patani in which are confined only persons on remand or sentenced to less than 6 months' imprisonment.

Alor Star: There was a slight increase in the average daily prison population from 132 in 1354 to 139 in 1355. Of the 375 sentenced prisoners admitted during the year 194 were Malays, 103 Chinese, 32 Indians, 44 Siamese, and 2 Javanese. 97 of the prisoners had previous convictions. There were 97 short sentence prisoners and 243 in the revenue grade. There was only one execution during the year.

Sungei Patani: The average daily population decreased from 40 to 29. The prisoners admitted were:— Malays 108: Chinese 104: Indians 69: Siamese 3: Sikhs 1, a total of 285—73 of these had previous convictions.

There were no serious breaches of discipline.

Medical examination of prisoners on admission, vaccination, and treatment for hookworm and malaria are matters of routine. 82 persons suffering from minor illnesses were treated in the Prison hospital, and 12 more serious cases were transferred to the General Hospital. One of these latter died from Cerebral Haemorrhage.

Teaching of trades to long sentence prisoners occupied a large part of the time of the Prison staff, and carpentry was the main occupation. Rotan work, book-binding and tin-smithing were also important. Almost all of the articles produced were on orders from Government Departments, but some work was also done for private individuals.

Digitized by Google

VAGRANTS CAMP.

The admissions to the Vagrants Camp amounted to only 12 as compared with 36, and the daily average number of inmates was 18.6 as against 20.7 in 1354.

Health conditions continued to be satisfactory with no outbreak of any epidemic diseases. Medical examination on admission and treatment for hookworm is routine procedure.

The vagrants are put to cultivate fruit and vegetables which are supplied to the Prison and to outside customers as well as to themselves.

The general improvement in the tin and rubber industries has meant that there are fewer persons who are unable to find employment of some kind, and this is reflected in the decreasing number of vagrants in the Camp.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XIV

LEGISLATION.

Twenty-three Enactments were passed during the year consisting almost entirely of amendments and re-enactments of existing laws made with the object either of conforming with the developing needs of the State, or of securing uniformity with similar legislation in other Malayan administrations, or of according with various International Conventions.

The main legislation of the year may be said to be:

The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Enactment;

The Treaty of Peace (Covenant of the League of Nations) (Repeal) Enactment;

The Railways (Amendment) Enactment;

The Motor Cars (Amendment) Enactment;

The Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Enactment;

The Health Board (Amendment) Enactment;

The Women and Girls' Protection (Amendment) Enactment;

The Penal Code (Amendment) Enactment;

The Inventions (Amendment) Enactment;

The Tea Control Enactment;

The Deleterious Drugs (Amendment) Enactment;

The Rubber Regulation Enactment.

A short account of these is given:

(i) *The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Enactment.* Justices of the Peace, a recent creation in Kedah, are given the same powers as Magistrates and Police officers to demand the aid of the public in preventing breaches of the peace, suppressing affrays etc.

(ii) *The Treaty of Peace (Covenant of the League of Nations) (Repeal) Enactment.* Repeals an enactment of the previous year under which restrictive measures against Italy were undertaken. Complementary action was taken in rules under the Customs Enactment.

Digitized by Google

(iii) *The Railways (Amendment) Enactment.* Enables the Railway Administration to use road and air services in conjunction with railway services.

(iv) *The Motor Cars (Amendment) Enactment.* Imposes a special tax on vehicles using heavy oil engines to recoup loss of petrol tax.

(v) *The Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Enactment.* Provides machinery required for the reciprocal enforcement of judgments in pursuance of various International Conventions to which the State is party. The arrangements differ only in detail from those of Enactment No. 92 (Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments) which provided for reciprocity between various parts of the British Empire only.

(vi) *The Health Board (Amendment) Enactment.* Gives statutory authority for a Provident Fund Scheme for Health Board employees.

(vii) *The Women and Girls' Protection (Amendment) Enactment.* In order to permit the extension to Kedah of the Extradition Treaty of 22nd December, 1931, between Great Britain and the United States of America it is made an offence in the State to have or attempt to have unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl under 16 years of age. The previous age of consent was 15 years. With this exception the crimes and offences specified in list in Article 3 of the Treaty are already covered by the Schedule to the Extradition Enactment of the State, to which this offence is now added.

(viii) *The Penal Code (Amendment) Enactment.* Amends sections relating to coins so as to conform with an International Convention dated 29th April, 1929, on the subject of the suppression of counterfeiting by international action.

(ix) *The Inventions (Amendment) Enactment.* Extends the grant of exclusive privileges in the State to cover certificates of registration in the Straits Settlements or Federated Malay States of patent rights acquired in the United Kingdom.

(x) *The Tea Control Enactment.* In conjunction with the rest of Malaya a simple form of control of tea production is set up by means of the restriction of planting and the prohibition of the export of seed.

Digitized by Google

(xi) *The Deleterious Drugs (Amendment) Enactment.* Amends the existing law so as to give effect to the provisions of the International Opium Convention signed at Geneva on 13th July, 1931, and to make provision for the extension of the Enactment to drugs capable of being converted into dangerous drugs. The Enactment is introduced in order that Kedah may be included in the operation of the Convention. The amendments correspond with amendments already made in the law of the United Kingdom by the Dangerous Drugs Act 1932, of the Straits Settlements by the Deleterious Drugs (Amendment) Ordinance 1935, and of the Federated Malay States by the Deleterious Drugs (Amendment) Enactment 1936.

(xii) *The Rubber Regulation Enactment.* Consolidates the law on this subject by incorporating all the amendments made up to the present and adding further provisions found to be necessary in the light of experience in the working of the scheme. It repeals Enactment No. 135 (Rubber Regulation) and several enactments passed in amendment thereof including one (No. 10) of the year under review.

In addition to this legislation the usual drafting of rules and amendments to rules and other subsidiary legislation went on during the year.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XV

PUBLIC FINANCE, TAXATION.

The State has no public debt.

At the end of the year, in addition to an Opium Revenue Replacement Fund, the value of which was $6,275,486, the assets exceeded liabilities by $6,818,407 as shown in the following statements:—

Liabilities	$	Assets	$
Deposits ...	1,101,047	Cash ...	776,994
Opium Revenue Replacement Fund ...	6,275,486	Cash-in-Transit ..	48,551
Rubber Fund ...	326,228	Advances ...	25,237
Surplus ...	6,818,407	Imprests ...	25,700
		Investments ...	7,138,910
		Loans ...	17,340
		Opium Revenue Replacement Fund Investments ...	6,275,486
		Suspense ...	212,950
Total ...	14,521,168		14,521,168

Revenue and Expenditure: The Revenue for the year, $7,029,328, exceeded the amount estimated by $598,322 and the expenditure, $6,592,465, showed a saving of $284,948 on the estimated sum, so that the financial position improved by $883,270 as compared with the position forecasted in the printed estimates, and a budgeted deficit of $446,507 became an actual surplus of $436,863.

The revenue and expenditure figures exceeded those of last year by $214,860 and $798,728 respectively.

Detailed statements of revenue and expenditure are given in Appendices "A" and "B".

Digitized by Google

The following table shows the percentage contributions of the principal heads of revenue:—

Customs	48.13
Land Revenue (including Land Sales) ..	14.53
Opium Monopoly	10.89
Interest	7.35
Sanitary Boards	5.30
Farms and Licences	5.92
Other Heads..	7.88
	100%

The revenue from Customs amounted to $3,383,763. The following table shows the main items of Customs revenue in 1353, 1354 and 1355:—

	1353	1354	1355
EXPORT DUTIES	$	$	$
Fish	19,386	29,345	25,189
Rice and Padi	109,702	106,855	90,420
Rubber	510,048	471,616	738,977
Tapioca	23,012	20,171	22,288
Tin	29,554	44,838	56,682
IMPORT DUTIES.			
Coffee	40,257	43,475	46,835
Cotton Piece Goods ...	245,634	204,410	196,673
Liquors	166,839	167,199	194,328
Petroleum	523,336	548,249	550,963
Sugar	461,235	470,870	510,595
Tobacco	714,356	736,842	784,145
LICENCES.			
Liquor Licences ...	223,744	236,969	231,938

Digitized by Google

The export duty on rubber was approximately $304,000 more than the estimate. This was mainly due to improved prices and slightly larger releases under the Regulation Scheme, the percentages being 60, 65, 65 and 75. The total exports of rubber were 2,253 tons more than in 1354.

The price of tin-ore rose during the year, and this combined with an increase in the percentage of release from 90% in the first quarter to 100% in the fourth quarter was responsible for the excess of approximately $13,700 on the estimate.

Under Import Duties there was a small increase on the previous year's figures on most items; the largest gain being from tobacco $109,145 and $47,303 above the amount estimated and last year's collection respectively; corresponding gains from sugar were $60,595 and $39,725; and from liquors $34,328 and $27,139. Cotton piece goods again declined, bringing in $15,590 less than was anticipated and $7,737 less than last year.

Chandu, or specially prepared opium, is bought from the Government of the Straits Settlements and is retailed at the rate of 26 cents a tube of 2 hoon. The net revenue therefrom, $765,605, was less than the 1354 total by $264,516 and amounted to 10.89% of the total revenue of the State.

Taxation: The following is a summary of the Customs tariff as at the end of the year:—

IMPORT DUTIES.

DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES	Full Duty	Preferential Duty
Ale, Beer, Stout, Porter, Cider and Perry	$1.30 per gallon	$1.20 per gallon
Other intoxicating liquors ...	Graduated from $1.50 to $14 per gallon or proof gallon	90c. to $10.50 per gallon or proof gallon
Tobacco	Graduated from 70c. to $1.60 per lb	$1 per lb. for cigarettes and manufactured tobacco if imported for sale to the public in air-tight tins or containers
Kerosene	10c. per gallon	

Digitized by Google

IMPORT DUTIES.—(*Contd.*)

DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES	Full Duty	Preferential Duty
Petrol	35c. per gallon	
Methylated Spirit	5c. ,,	
Sugar, including "gula batu" syrup, cordial and any solution containing not less than 30 parts of sugar per centum	3c. per lb	
Tea	8c. per lb	6c. per lb
Coffee including coffee beans or fruits, coffee powder	4c. per kati	Free
Cartridges	$11 per 1,000	Free
Motor and Motor Cycle Tyres and Inner Tubes	20% ad valorem	Free
Boots, booties, shoes, sandals, slippers and soles of all descriptions made wholly or partly from rubber ...	50c. per pair	10c. per pair
Milk, including Cream, condensed, desiccated or preserved milk or cream	$5 per 100 lbs. net weight	$1 per 100 lbs. net weight
Fruits and Vegetables preserved in metal, glass or earthenware containers, including jam and marmalade	20% ad valorem	Free
Tanned Hides and Skins	10% ,,	Free
Brassware, Bronze and Bronzeware, Copper and Copperware ...	15% ,,	5% ad valorem
Perfumery and cosmetics	25% ,,	Free
Groundnuts	2c. per lb	Free
Piece Goods	20% ad valorem, or 5c. per yard, whichever is higher	10% ad valorem, or 2½c. per yard, whichever is higher
Silk, Cotton, Linen, Jute, Artificial Silk, Felt, Flannel, Woolen and all textile goods made from plant fibres, whether finished goods or not, other than gunnies, waste, yarn, thread and piece goods as above, to the value of the materials only	20% ad valorem	10% ad valorem
Fishmaws and Sharkfins	15% ,,	5% ,,
Groundnut Oil, Kachang and Gingelly Oil	4c. per lb	Free
Paraffin Wax	15% ad valorem	5% ad valorem
Padi and Rice	25c. per picul	15c. per picul

Digitized by Google

EXPORT DUTIES.

DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES	Duty
Arecanuts, Coconuts, Copra and Pepper ...	2½% ad valorem
Rice, Padi and Broken Rice	10c. per picul
Bran	5% ad valorem
Tapioca	3% ad valorem
Forest Produce included in Classes I and II of Schedule I of the Forest Rules, 1345 ...	10% "
Pigs	$1 each
Goats and Sheep	25c. each
Fowls, ducks, geese and chickens ...	5c. each
Tin	10% ad valorem
Tin-ore	72% of the duty on tin
Scheelite	$2 per picul
Wolfram	$2 "
All other metals and metalliferous ores ...	10% ad valorem
Fresh sea fish	20% ad valorem
Sea fish dried and salted and sharkfins ...	
Blachan	
Oysters, Mother of Pearl shell	
Fresh river and pond fish	10% ad valorem
River fish, dried and salted, beche-de-mer and fishmaws	
Exception :	
(*a*) Fresh fish may be exported by sea from Kuala Kuala Muda free of duty.	
(*b*) The duty payable on fish exported from Kuah, Langkawi, is as follows :	
Class I	$1.20 per pikul
" II	$1.00 "
" III	50c. "
Elephants	20% ad valorem
Bones, horns, hides, tusks and tallow ...	10% "
Bricks	5% "
Tiles	5% "
Duck's, goose's and hen's eggs	50c. per picul
Stone	10c. per cubic yard
Marble	10% ad valorem

Digitized by Google

EXCISE: Duty at the rate of $7.00 per proof gallon is collected on samsu distilled in licensed distilleries. Annual fees are charged for licences to sell intoxicating liquors and medicated wines wholesale or retail or in public houses.

LAND: State land is alienated at a premium varying from $1 to $25 a relong for agricultural or mining purposes, and from 4 cents to $1.50 a square foot for building purposes within Sanitary Board areas. Annual quit rent varies from 30 cents to $2.50 a relong. The revenue for the year, including land sales, amounted to $1,021,380.

MUNICIPAL: Revenue consists mainly of assessment on houses (5% to 10% on the annual valuation based on rental) taxes on vehicles, water rates and general conservancy.

The following table gives the municipal revenue in 1353, 1354 and 1355 under its main heads:—

	1353	1354	1355
	$	$	$
House Assessment	88,513	87,465	84,484
Market Dues	17,543	18,331	18,477
Miscellaneous	8,722	8,393	7,891
Rest House Fees	1,947	2,504	2,036
Sanitation	54,029	54,716	54,503
Slaughter Fees	13,165	12,688	13,011
Registration of Vehicles ...	130,549	140,448	134,552
Water Rates	45,779	51,234	56,839
Bath House Fees	690	656	585

All vehicles using public roads and all drivers or conductors of motor vehicles must be licensed.

The licence fees for private motor cars vary from $12 to $60 a year according to Horse Power.

Motor cars used for passenger hire are required to pay in addition $3 for 3 months for every passenger authorised to be carried.

Licence fees for motor lorries, based on unloaded tonnage, range from $100 to $300 a year.

In addition to the above licence fees, a fee equal to 20% of the value of the motor vehicle is payable when such vehicle is first licensed in the State unless the vehicle has been manufactured within the British Empire or a similar fee has been paid on the registration of the vehicle in the Colony or in any other Malay State.

Digitized by Google

STAMP DUTIES.

Stamp duties are collected by means of adhesive stamps affixed, in accordance with a Schedule to the Stamp Enactment, on certain specified documents, of which the more common are given below:—

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENTS	Duty.
Death duties	Graduated scale from 1% to 20% according to the value of the estate, with total exemption in the case of estates not exceeding $500 in value
Agreement or Memorandum of Agreement ...	25c.
Promissory Note including an I. O. U. ...	25c. for every $100 or fraction thereof
Bill of Exchange payable on demand or at sight	4c.
Bill of Exchange of any other kind whatever (except a cheque)	5c. for every $100 of the amount or value of the money for which the bill is drawn
Charge, Agreement for a Charge, Bond, Debenture:—	
(*a*) Being the only principal or primary security	½c. on every dollar with a minimum of 50c.
(*b*) Being a collateral or auxiliary or additional or substituted security ...	⅕th of the duty on the principal security
(*c*) Conveyance, Assignment or Transfer of any such security as aforesaid ...	¼th of the duty on the principal security
Re-conveyance, Re-assignment, Release, Discharge, Surrender or Renunciation of any such security as aforesaid or of the benefit thereof or of the money thereby secured:—	
(i) If the total amount of value of the money at any time secured does not exceed $500 ...	50c.
(ii) In any other case ...	$1
Cheque	4c.

Digitized by Google

STAMP DUTIES.—(*Contd.*)

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENTS	Duty
Conveyance, Assignment or Transfer:-	
(*a*) on sale or by way of gift of any property (except shares in a company)	
(i) If the sale price does not exceed $500	1% with a minimum of $1
(ii) If the sale price exceeds $500 ...	1% for the first $500 and 7½c. for every additional $10
(*b*) shares in a company	
(i) name of transferee filled in ...	5c. for every $100
(ii) blank transfer	30c. for every $100
Lease or Agreement for a Lease of any immovable property granted or made ...	At rates varying according to rent and period
Lease executed in pursuance of a fully stamped agreement	50c
Lease of any kind whatsoever not otherwise specially charged with duty	$5
Power or Letter of Attorney	$2
Receipt for any money or property exceeding $20	4c.

There is no poll or hut tax.

EXPENDITURE: The expenditure, $6,592,465, as already stated, exceeded that of the previous year by $798,728 but was $284,948 less than the amount estimated.

Personal Emoluments, excluding Ruling House Allowances, State Pensions, Retired Pensions and Gratuities, amounted to $2,958,522 as compared with $2,929,267 in the previous year. They absorbed 42.08% of the revenue and represented 44.88% of the expenditure for the year.

Investments: No contribution was made during the year to the Opium Revenue Replacement Fund, and the interest earned on the Fund's investments was credited to revenue. The securities of the Fund depreciated in value during the year to the extent of $108,332.

The Surplus Funds Investments amounting to $7,138,911 consist as to $2,342,609 in Federated Malay States Government, Singapore and Penang Municipal Loans and $4,796,302 in sterling securities. The funds are not earmarked for any specific purpose.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XVI

MISCELLANEOUS.

LANDS.

The total area of the State is 3,660 square miles of which 1,210 square miles are alienated for agricultural purposes.

The area alienated is held under 151,451 titles and during the year steady progress was made with the conversion of the balance of incomplete titles to Surat Putus (Final Titles).

In addition considerable areas are held under Temporary Occupation Licences for the cultivation of foodstuff catch crops.

Land revenue for the year, including cost of boundary marks, amounted to $1,028,701 as against $1,014,907 in 1354 and $962,479 in 1353. Of these totals Land Rents accounted for $761,731, $755,763 and $739,709 respectively.

The concession of payment of rent by instalments was continued to Estates of over 100 relongs (70 acres) in area on proof of financial stringency.

The number of applications for alienation received increased from 4,219 in 1354 to 6,194 in 1355. The area alienated increased from 7,045 acres in 1354 to 7,284 acres.

Malay Reservation: Under the provisions of the Malay Reservations Enactment land is set aside for alienation to Malays and to locally domiciled Siamese, and, subject to certain limited exceptions, the interest of any Malay or Siamese landowner within these areas may not be transferred or disposed of to persons of any other race. The total area of such reservations at the beginning of the year was, exclusive of Forest Reserves, approximately 1,950 square miles, and additional areas were included during the year making the total now about 1,956 square miles.

RUBBER REGULATION.

The assessment allocated to Kedah for the year under review was 61,470 tons, giving an exportable allowance at 62½% of 38,419 tons. The total exported was 40,289 tons, comprising 27,125 tons from large estate, 11,682 tons from medium and small holdings, and the balance from stocks carried forward from 1935 and transfers from other Administrations.

Digitized by Google

There are 227 large holdings with a total area of 204,393 acres assessed by the Assessment Committee during the year.

There were 41 cases covering different offences against the provisions of the Rubber Regulation Enactment. In 20 of these convictions were obtained. Fines amounting to $6,862 were imposed, of which $5,987 were paid. 7 cases were withdrawn or dismissed by the Courts, and in the remaining 14 no arrests were made but rubber was seized. The quantity so seized and forfeited amounted to 126 piculs 97 katis. Four of the above prosecutions were for illegal planting. The remainder were under the Export Rules or Customs Enactment for smuggling offences. In one case for smuggling a fine of $4,000 was imposed and a lorry and rubber were confiscated. On appeal the fine was reduced to $2,500 and this was paid, but the order for confiscation was upheld.

SURVEY.

The total expenditure of the Survey Department was $206,309 compared with the estimated figure of $223,610, and actual expenditure of $174,857 in 1354. Revenue collections totalled $1,215, an increase of $148 over last year, and in addition the value of the work done at scheduled rates and charged to the Land Offices was $372,900. Some $313,589 of the latter were remitted by Land Officers, leaving net fees at $59,311.

The progress of surveys with reference to requisitions at the end of the past three years is shewn thus:

NUMBER OF LOTS FOR WHICH REQUISITIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED

Year	UNSATISFIED ON 30TH ZULHIJJAH						
	Received during the year	Awaiting survey	Under action in office	With L.O. for settlement	Total unsatisfied	Satisfied to date	Cancelled
1355	5,442	20,837	8,148	13,535	42,520	123,765	101
1354	5,968	24,727	10,600	11,546	46,873	113,971	28
1353	4,370	24,805	15,241	7,973	48,019	106,857	76

The majority of the lots awaiting survey have already been demarcated, and the position is such that any urgent surveys can be dealt with immediately.

Digitized by Google

The cost and output of the Field Staff during the past three years were:

Year	Cost Ex-Supervision	Output of Work			Average effective strength
		Lots	Acres	Chains	
	$	Surveys			
1355	36,133	9,399	23,034	101,993	19·9
1354	27,300	7,182	17,128	65,886	13·4
1353	24,335	6,964	19,657	70,156	10·9

The increase in average output and effective strength is due to the cessation of work on Rubber Control.

The cost and output of the Computing and Drafting branches are summarised in this table:

Year	Cost Ex-supervision	Number of Lots on 30th Zulhijjah							Average effective strength	
		Computed	Plans drawn	Titles prepared	Settled	Awaiting Computation	Awaiting Plan	Awaiting settlement	Computers	Others
	$									
1355	50,465	9,010	11,783	5,448	9,794	3,073	5,075	13,535	9.1	51
1354	50,603	10,484	10,687	3,763	7,114	2,752	7,848	11,546	10	54
1353	51,648	15,475	11,103	5,650	9,230	7,190	8,051	7,973	16	55

Fifteen tracings of 8 Chain Standard Sheets were prepared for lithographing, and the newly re-drawn series of 1 mile sheets covering the whole State were reproduced. A plane table detail survey of Kulim town was completed and a map made by sunprinting. A new 1 mile map of the Langkawi Islands was produced based on information obtained from Admiralty surveys and that already in the possession of the Department.

That the life of a surveyor is not always lacking in thrills is illustrated by this tale of an incident which occurred in Central Kedah. A Malay coolie carrying the leather box containing a heavy theodolite was suddenly pursued in the rice fields by a female buffalo. With commendable courage he did not immediately throw away the

Digitized by Google

box and stampede, but carefully deposited it on terra firma, then ran for his life closely followed by the infuriated animal. The buffalo gained on him, it was within a few feet, when suddenly the path along which they were running stopped abruptly on the bank of a river with a 20 feet drop on to dry ground at the foot of it. There was no question of stopping, over went the coolie followed by the buffalo. He fell on his head and was stunned—when he came to, there was the buffalo lying dead beside him with a broken neck.

CHINESE PROTECTORATE.

The Chinese Protectorate, Kedah, was established in 1341, with the office in Sungei Patani. Regular visits are made by the Protector of Chinese to Alor Star and Kulim, and to other districts as occasion demands. The Protector of Chinese is the Registrar of Societies, Superintendent of Pawnshops, a Deputy Registrar of Schools, a Deputy Controller of Labour, and a Deputy Immigration Officer.

There were four prosecutions under the Women and Girls' Protection Enactment, resulting in three convictions, and the banishment of two women who were living on the earnings of prostitution. There were 83 Mui Tsai on the register at the beginning of the year, and 77 remained at the end. All were inspected at least once during the year, and their condition was found to be satisfactory. Thirty-eight girls were admitted to the Home, and five remained at the close of the year. Five of the inmates were married from the Home.

Ten Chinese Vernacular Schools and seventy-four teachers were registered during the year. All the schools were regularly inspected by the Inspector of Chinese Schools, and visits were also paid by the Protector of Chinese. At the end of the year 81 schools remained on the register.

Eight societies were registered and three exempted from registration. Five, having ceased to exist, were struck off the register. No secret society activity was disclosed during the year.

There were no labour disputes, but 48 enquiries were held by the Protector in respect of claims for wages by 60 labourers.

Eight decrepits and six mental patients were repatriated to China at Government expense.

The total expenditure of the department was $17,714.

Digitized by Google

CO-OPERATION.

Steady progress was maintained in Urban Thrift and Loan Societies and Rural Credit Societies as is shewn in the following tables:—

URBAN THRIFT AND LOAN SOCIETIES.

	1355	1354	1353
Number Registered ...	15	14	13
Membership	1,396	1,176	1,078
Capital	$185,785	$152,130	$118,848
Loans	$177,719	$161,297	$119,266
Repayments	$173,981	$127,170	$105,156

RURAL CREDIT SOCIETIES.

	1355	1354	1353
Number Registered ...	29	30	26
Membership	1,413	1,536	1,300
Capital	$62,290	$70,864	$63,236
Loans	$4,250	Nil	Nil
Repayments	$5,628	$4,132	$4,945

There were also 6 General Purposes Societies with a membership of 2,986. During the year 34 members and 147 of their relatives died, and the amount collected from members for funeral expenses was $1,468.

The Co-operative Rice Mill Society started working last year, with an authorised capital of $50,000. Shares to the value of $8,167 were taken up principally by rice planters themselves. The Co-operative Department assisted in running the mill and by lectures at the different weekly fairs endeavoured to encourage the people to make use of the mill. With the money subscribed a site was bought, building erected, and the necessary machinery purchased, leaving a small balance of cash for paying for the rice. Even with the lack of experience of the workers, and the drawback that cash payments are insisted on for rice sold from the mill, the venture has proved to be successful, and it is hoped that with time it will become even more so on a larger scale.

Digitized by Google

PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

All Government printing work in Malay and English is carried out by the Department, including Gazettes, Enactments, reports, Estimates, religious works for the Sheikh-ul-Islam, etc. This year a revised edition, in two volumes, of the Rules, Regulations and Notifications made under Kedah Enactments was completed. This is a companion edition to the Revised Laws of Kedah published in 1354.

The number of registered printed forms rose from 1,334 to 1,400, but some reductions have been made as the result of the recommendations of a Committee appointed for the purpose of enquiring into the numbers of obsolete or redundant forms. It is however to be expected that new legislation and growing departmental needs will make for an ever increasing number of such forms.

The staff at the end of the year was 66, composed of 56 Malays, 9 Indians, and one Chinese.

Revenue totalled $4,036 and expenditure $58,242, as compared with $2,666 and $59,004 respectively in the previous year.

REGISTRY OF FOREIGN COMPANIES.

Five foreign companies were registered during the year, and two were struck off the register on ceasing to transact business in Kedah. The fees collected amounted to $438 as compared with $446 in 1354.

KEDAH VOLUNTEER FORCE.

The strength of the Force was increased by one Malay platoon, and at the end of the year there were 232 all ranks, composed of 6 European Officers and 71 European Other Ranks, and 5 Malay Officers and 150 Malay Other Ranks. The standard of keenness was well maintained, and attendances at parades throughout the season have been good.

Individual training occupied the first six months of the year and the remainder of the time was devoted to Section and Platoon training. The whole of the period of the Annual Camp at Port Dickson in August was allotted to Company Training. A weapon training course for Non-commissioned Officers and selected privates gave satisfactory results.

Digitized by Google

Two teams were entered for the Platoon team Rifle Match on 30 yards ranges open to all units in Malaya. The places gained were 4th and 6th—a most gratifying result.

His Excellency the General Officer Commanding held his Annual Inspection of the unit in August, and the tactical exercise which formed the inspection proved of great value to all ranks. Ceremonial parades were held on the occasions of the birthday of His Majesty King Edward VIII and His Highness the Sultan of Kedah.

Workmen's Compensation.

During the year there were 58 reported accidents, involving 14 deaths.

Three employers were prosecuted and fined for failure to report accidents, or for making late reports.

A total of $3,053 compensation was paid to the Commissioner who distributed to the heirs of deceased workmen and to injured workmen themselves a total of $1,923. The amount remaining in his care is in respect of one Chinese and two Indian workmen whose heirs have not yet been found.

The Workmen's Compensation Enactment No. 134 was amended by Enactment 8/1355, to make compensation payable to workmen, whether on daily or monthly pay, whose wages do not exceed $200 per mensem. Previously daily paid men were excluded.

General.

Sentiments of staunch loyalty and devotion to the Throne were expressed when on the abdication of His Majesty King Edward VIII news was received that on the 12th December His Royal Highness the Duke of York succeeded as His Majesty King George VI.

His Highness the Sultan, although unable to take an active part in the affairs of the State, enjoyed good health throughout the year. His Highness' 75th Birthday fell on the 11th March, 1937.

His Excellency the High Commissioner, Sir Shenton Thomas, when flying to England by Imperial Airways, called on the 26th April at the Alor Star Aerodrome where

Digitized by Google

His Highness the Regent and others were assembled to say goodbye. In July His Excellency (A. S. Small, Esq.) paid an official visit to the State and presented the Insignia of the rank of Honorary Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George to His Highness Tunku Badlishah, Raja Muda of Kedah. Amongst a number of distinguished guests who were present at the State banquet, which followed immediately after the presentation ceremony, was His Highness the Sultan of Trengganu who, with Her Highness the Tunku Ampuan and a number of high officials, was on a visit to Kedah at the time. Visitors to the State from outside Malaya included Sir Thomas Comyn Platt and the members of the Mui Tsai Commission.

The Straits Steamship Company's vessel the "Kedah" visited Langkawi with a party of tourists at Christmas, 1936. The District Officer had made arrangements for sightseeing which were much appreciated by the visitors.

During the year arrangements were made for the better collection and distribution of "zakat" and other charitable contributions from Muhammadans. Contributions will be entirely voluntary, and collections and payments will be under the guidance of a Central Committee, of which His Highness the Raja Muda is now Chairman and District Committees over which District Officers are presiding: but although, for the time being, they are being permitted to hold office "ex officio" (most of them are also "ex officio" Presidents of the Club in such districts as possess Clubs) the regulation drawn up have in no sense the force of law of the State, nor will the laws give any special assistance in the collection of the donations or subscriptions voluntarily offered.

Mr. S. W. Jones, M.C.S., acted as British Adviser from the beginning of the year (24th March, 1936) until my return from leave on the 2nd July.

The thanks of the Government are due to the Unofficials who assisted the State as members of the various Boards and Committees.

J. D. HALL,
British Adviser, Kedah.

Alor Star, 17th September, 1937.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX A.

Statement of Revenue for each year from A.H. 1351 to 1355 (A.D. 1933 to 1937).

Heads of Revenue.	A. H. 1351 (A.D.1932-33)	A. H. 1352 (A.D.1933-34)	A. H. 1353 (A.D.1934-35)	A. H. 1354 (A.D.1935-36)	A.H. 1355 (A.D.1936-37)
	$	$	$	$	$
1. Marine	22,100	24,114	24,912	24,215	23,484
2. Customs	1,644,641	2,154,612	3,008,387	2,999,211	3,383,763
3. Opium Monopoly	758,789	895,352	994,183	1,030,121	765,605
4. Farms and Licences	266,038	294,942	341,843	420,204	416,399
5. Stamp Duties	12,111	19,517	63,373	55,899	40,625
6. Court Fees etc....	71,755	70,035	77,265	69,408	71,070
7. Police	31,909	29,220	31,260	30,752	30,644
8. Education	16,256	15,475	18,003	28,191	27,244
9. Veterinary	7,251	8,882	10,432	4,301	3,910
10. Reimbursements	46,632	48,325	47,342	56,202	61,032
11. Posts and Telegraphs	130,141	134,469	152,074	130,609	171,874
12. Lands	866,500	868,175	896,402	926,392	935,648
13. Forests	36,331	48,464	59,531	65,171	78,407
14. Mines	3,813	3,819	3,775	5,407	3,479
15. Interest	393,609	412,876	462,494	461,248	516,359
16. Sanitary Boards	308,868	323,619	360,938	376,435	372,378
17. Miscellaneous	295,262	197,248	98,209	48,042	41,675
18. Land Sales	71,339	52,617	60,849	82,660	85,732
Total ...	4,983,345	5,601,761	6,711,272	6,814,468	7,029,328

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX B.

Statement of Expenditure for each year from A.H. 1351 to 1355 (A.D. 1933 to 1937).

Heads of Service.	A.H. 1351 (A.D. 1932-33)	A.H. 1352 (A.D. 1933-34)	A.H. 1353 (A.D. 1934-35)	A.H. 1354 (A.D. 1935-36)	A.H. 1355 (A.D. 1936-37)
	$	$	$	$	$
1. Ruling House Allowances	152,703	154,215	146,985	146,693	151,487
2. Pensions, etc.	273,983	278,453	289,509	317,300	402,325
3. H. H. The Sultan's Office	134,931	136,352	137,805	137,405	137,364
4. State Council	80,310	83,710	68,958	70,817	72,843
5. Kedah Civil Service	238,645	248,833	242,244	259,027	260,383
6. Agricultural	34,638	42,342	44,004	44,070	41,798
7. Audit	12,921	12,774	8,969	3,520	3,963
8 Chinese Protectorate	15,889	15,531	14,437	15,474	15,967
9. Clerical Service	479,509	472,712	471,164	459,484	457,155
10. Co-Operative Societies Department	5,156	6,607	7,861	7,753	7,407
11. Courts	89,173	90,564	93,211	80,315	87,519
12. District Offices	77,753	76,273	77,607	75,885	77,171
13. Education	415,925	424,664	436,500	435,333	472,330
14. Forests	47,658	50,245	47,144	47,908	48,056
15. Labour	12,754	14,362	14,957	15,111	13,087
16. Lands	125,922	124,735	123,294	123,835	121,372
17. Marine	22,982	24,499	23,916	21,748	22,637
18. Medical and Health	407,466	393,455	401,483	441,060	486,124
19. Mines	5,067	4,466	4,654	4,603	4,592
20. Miscellaneous	319,554	306,912	332,120	437,208	417,425
21. Monopolies and Customs	125,558	127,311	135,758	137,416	151,776
22. Mosques	9,006	9,232	9,410	9,588	9,481
23. Police	431,934	426,178	424,979	417,928	433,784
24. Posts and Telegraphs	204,068	204,354	217,073	230,744	277,324
25. Printing	51,085	57,562	61,140	53,709	52,602
26. Prisons and Vagrants' Camp	77,395	72,970	67,193	70,959	68,598
27. Sanitary Boards	146,044	146,747	155,712	154,394	142,077
28. Surveys	239,698	208,140	170,110	174,857	195,798
29. Treasury	9,509	12,441	12,820	13,290	18,824
30. Veterinary	34,422	31,064	34,075	34,646	31,361
31. Volunteer Force	10,019	37,887	33,513	50,781	56,334
32. Public Works Department	194,372	181,514	201,999	246,974	282,702
33. Public Works Recurrent	464,741	479,217	522,463	533,664	563,229
34. Public Works Extraordinary	118,611	170,835	281,789	520,238	1,007,570
Total ...	5,069,401	5,127,156	5,314,856	5,793,737	6,592,465

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX C.

APPENDIX C.

Statistics of the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

Year.		Approximate number of articles passing through the post (Registers and Parcels excluded)	Number of Registered Articles.		Number of Parcels.		Number of Insured Articles (Parcels and Letters.)			
			Received.	Despatched.	Received.	Despatched.	Received.	Value.	Despatched.	Value.
								$ c.		$ c.
A. H.	A. D.									
1350	1932	2,678,455	60,044	61,053	12,772	4,370	492	28,863 71	512	40,850 17
1351	1933	2,421,848	57,342	59,623	10,860	3,483	462	28,590 55	419	38,752 29
1352	1934	2,498,548	57,360	58,636	11,095	3,032	457	32,388 81	372	29,413 33
1353	1935	2,968,433	60,373	59,802	11,881	3,418	575	65,487 85	489	43,465 09
1354	...	3,083,678	61,109	59,508	12,126	4,260	517	52,803 51	470	43,801 38
1355	...	3,233,126	61,750	61,650	12,323	3,992	583	66,884 73	538	58,011 90

Year.		Amount of Money Order and Postal Order Transactions.	Revenue.	Expenditure.			Approximate Number of Telegrams.			Telegraph and Telephone Wires.		
				Personal Emoluments.	Annually Recurrent.	Special Expenditure.	Received.	Despatched.	Transmitted.	Line Mileage	Wire Mileage.	Number of Telephones.
A. H.	A. D.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.						
1350	1932	724,078 93	123,424 60	146,316 42	42,841 17	32,998 82	52,546	50,674	31,980	...	...	521
1351	1933	602,256 94	130,140 78	148,766 35	39,997 75	15,303 39	46,891	46,709	24,609	...	...	491
1352	1934	706,700 42	134,469 52	152,281 04	41,328 03	10,745 00	42,016	41,808	37,830	...	...	510
1353	1935	982,903 17	152,074 84	157,397 40	42,907 10	16,892 44	42,497	41,080	41,483	...	...	542
1354	...	1,156,343 59	130,609 29	164,462 91	50,290 35	15,990 60	42,566	42,133	51,090	...	...	574
1355	...	1,349,997 82	+171,873 68	*167,090 40	51,867 65	×58,369 29	45,994	46,605	65,000	...	...	620

+ Excludes revenue debit of $116,881.59 being revenue collections of other Departments and $41,311.69 not included being free Telephone Telegraph Service to other Departments.

* Does not include Civil Service Personal Emoluments $11,310.

× The Engineering Branch alone spent $57,507.28 out of this Expenditure.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX D.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

List of Government Buildings with Values and Cost of Maintenance during 1355.

District	Number of Buildings on 1-1-1355	Value	Addition during 1355	Value	Deduction during 1355	Value	Number of Buildings on 30-12-1355	Value	Number of Buildings repaired	Cost of Maintenance During 1355				
										Current repairs including painting and reattapping during 1355	Special Repairs	Total cost of Repairs	Percentage of Upkeep	Minor Works
		$ c.		$ c.		$ c.		$ c.		$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	%	$ c.
North ...	600	4,096,821 21	39	197,340 92 * 51,159 50	16	52,500 00	623	4,292,821 63	366	43,675 74	924 00	44,599 74	1·09	...
Central	312	1,500,553 61	13	38,007 47 * 30,558 93	2	4,178 30	323	1,564,941 71	207	25,944 03	3,191 10	29,135 13	1·86	1,881 28
South ...	434	1,567,396 33	17	49 117 08	1	3,250 00	450	1,613,263 41	184	23,941 06	642 77	24,583 83	1·569	1,514 59
Total Whole State ...	1346	$7,164,771 15	69	$366,183 90	19	$59.928 30	1936	$7,471,026 75	757	$93,560 83	$4,757 87	$98,318 70	1·37	$3,395 87

* Value of Additions to Buildings 1355.

Digitized by Google

Principal Exports and Imports for the years 1353, 1354 and 1355.

Articles	1353		1354		1355	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		$		$		$
EXPORTS.						
Arecanuts ...	1,614 tons	101,398	2,086 tons	157,758	1,833 tons	152,052
Bran ...	4,495 „	98,000	4,794 „	116,417	5,238 „	144,425
Cattle ...	864 head	35,262	3,069 head	181,910	3,210 head	190,111
Copra ...	1,531 tons	76,861	2,361 tons	148,226	1,756 tons	143,379
Eggs ...	12,069,400 in number	235,505	12,863,377 in number	247,335	10,055,289 in number	182,456
Fish ...	848 tons	105,123	1,665 tons	117,716	1,550 tons	151,938
Padi ...	22,296 „	507,431	20,027 „	665,762	12,880 „	405,960
Rice ...	35,394 „	1,678,356	37,520 „	2,234,886	36,451 „	2,034,039
Rubber ...	42,747 „	21,343,275	39,337 „	18,255,456	41,590 „	26,629,878
Tapioca Pearl ...	7,421 „	551,702	4,803 „	367,893	8,502 „	622,632
Tapioca Flour ...	146 „	7,688	3,628 „	198,824	3,618 „	61,145
Tin-Ore ...	184 „	260,005	310 „	410,830	421 „	524,700
IMPORTS.						
Chandu ...	8,150 lbs.	249,120	8,250 lbs.	225,815	5,348 lbs.	169,651
Cigarettes ...	508,390 „	970,929	648,720 „	1,026,244	560,666 „	1,145,877
Coconut Oil ...	862 tons	98,416	920 tons	145,816	1,181 tons	216,144
Coffee ...	555 „	153,519	637 „	141,978	687 „	149,071
Gunnies ...	18,805 bales	104,184	15,052 bales	125,562	9,320 bales	93,179
Kerosene ...	3,120 tons	339,647	4,698 tons	457,398	3,269 tons	369,444
Liquors ...	46,164 gallons	249,804	81,300 gallons	288,115	77,345 gallons	332,492
Matches ...	29,700,000 boxes	58,320	30,260,000 boxes	46,669	24,814 tins	59,954
Milk, Condensed ...	30,932 cases	315,091	40,743 cases	334,010	41,588 cases	338,359
Motor Spirit ...	5,590 tons	1,012,033	6,616 tons	1,180,415	5,689 tons	1,166,125
Piece Goods ...	3,220,362 yards	522,787	3,425,615 yards	572,275	3,477,482 yards	613,641
Rice ...	2,017 tons	111,132	2,054 tons	130,826	2,472 tons	156,618
Sarongs, Slendangs and Kains ...	364,421 pieces	303,220	960,228 pieces	334,066	1,993,616 yards	361,535
Sugar ...	6,349 tons	437,851	7,233 tons	474,876	8,351 tons	499,633
Tobacco ...	736,429 lbs.	1,188,123	278,306 lbs	262,927	312,556 lbs.	263,658
Wheat Flour ...	1,957 tons	137,775	2,074 tons	139,730	2,114 tons	166,420

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX E 2.

Principal Exports and Imports for the years 1934, 1935 and 1936 A.D.

Articles	1934		1935		1936	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		$		$		$
EXPORTS.						
Arecanuts ...	1,692 tons	82,362	2,094 tons	148,322	1,763 tons	138,889
Bran ...	4,443 „	94,749	5,190 „	120,344	4,938 „	132,714
Cattle ...	8,097 head	99,396	6,203 head	130,948	4,169 head	250,420
Copra ...	1,378 tons	62,141	2,358 tons	141,425	1,831 tons	131,430
Eggs ...	12,746,243 in number	236,102	8,916,374 in number	238,507	11,265,124 in number	206,670
Fish, dried and salted	1,152 tons	128,696	1,539 tons	129,878	1,456 tons	122,143
Padi ...	23,858 „	534,475	20,164 „	555,640	15,843 „	484,130
Rice ...	37,486 „	1,683,302	38,681 „	2,221,330	35,902 „	1,979,802
Rubber ...	52,264 „	22,244,820	39,930 „	17,811,393	40,289 „	23,560,661
Tapioca Pearl ...	8,393 „	601,587	5,956 „	446,394	7,259 „	532,187
Tapioca Flour ...	99 „	4,853	2,118 „	132,204	5,005 „	165,730
Tin Ore ...	209 „	302,481	202 „	123,960	413 „	506,048
IMPORTS.						
Chandu ...	9,500 lbs.	270,720	9,167 lbs.	244,935	5,565 lbs.	181,061
Cigarettes ...	581,705 „	965,976	615,891 „	1,017,981	611,626 „	1,172,687
Coconut Oil ...	1,094 tons	123,909	787 tons	114,746	1,219 tons	212,164
Coffee ...	538 „	150,407	624 „	148,520	703 „	146,431
Gunnies ...	18,466 bales	111,540	19,313 bales	120,978	8,604 bales	99,782
Kerosene ...	3,622 tons	395,556	4,554 tons	467,146	3,433 tons	365,477
Liquors ...	41,911 gallons	234,958	77,307 gallons	292,599	73,576 gallons	310,859
Matches ...	30,747,940 boxes	61,260	55,070,000 boxes	54,203	22,076 tins	53,176
Milk, Condensed ...	33,351 cases	339,352	34,944 cases	330,446	44,531 cases	339,145
Motor Sprit ...	6,205 tons	1,071,258	6,494 tons	1,191,862	5,664 tons	1,089,765
Piece Goods ...	3,623,780 yards	551,897	3,524,426 yards	598,704	3,280,414 yards	558,756
Rice ...	2,080 tons	110,995	2,123 tons	131,976	2,467 tons	153,625
Sarong, Slendangs and Kains ...	500,036 pieces	340,936	1,687,423 yards	323,719	1,832,062 yards	326,833
Sugar ...	6,909 tons	487,936	6,925 tons	450,454	8,569 tons	513,418
Tobacco ...	176,784 lbs.	177,523	220,174 lbs.	209,251	293,875 lbs.	261,754
Wheat Flour ...	2,043 tons	142,136	2,115 tons	140,385	1,629 tons	158,079

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX F.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO THE STATE OF KEDAH.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS.

The Annual Report of the British Adviser on the State of Kedah since 1911.

The Kedah Government Gazette.

UNOFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS.

There are no publications dealing exclusively with the State of Kedah, but there are references to Kedah in most of the standard works dealing with Malaya.

Journal of the Indian Archipelago (Logans Journal) Singapore 1847—62.

Journal of the Malayan Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, 1873—1935, Singapore.

Newbold, T. Y., Political and Statistical Account of the British Settlements in the Straits of Malacca, two Vols., London, 1839.

Census Report, 1921, by J. E. Nathan.

Census Report, 1931, by C. A. Vlieland.

The Blockade of Quedah, Stuart Osborne, 1833, London.

Swettenham, Sir Frank, G.C.M.G., B. Malaya, London, 1907.

Treaties and Engagements affecting the Native States of the Peninsula, Singapore, 1889.

Wilkinson, R. J., A History of the Peninsula Malays, Singapore, 1920.

Winstedt, R. O., C.M.G., M.A., D. LITT., OXON. Malaya, London, 1923.

A History of Malaya, published in Vol. XIII, Part I of the Journal of the Malayan Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, 1935.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichest

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

(47412—48) Wt. 3388—3982 500 2/38 P. St. G. 377/7

S.O. Code No. 58–1835

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1834

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1727 and 1798 respectively (Price 1s. 6d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 1s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. A[illegible] BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
[illegible]ller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1834

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1727 and 1798 respectively (Price 1s. 6d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 1s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY

Report for period 1st January, 1936—31st December, 1936

CONTENTS.

Chapter.		Page.
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	5
III.	Population	6
IV.	Health	8
V.	Housing	11
VI.	Production	12
VII.	Commerce	14
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	15
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	16
X.	Communications and Transport	18
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	20
XII.	Public Works	21
XIII.	Justice, Police and Prisons	22
XIV.	Legislation	24
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	25
XVI.	Missions	30
XVII.	Lands	30
XVIII.	Native Co-operative Societies	32
XIX.	Weather Reports and Rainfall Statistics	32
XX.	Miscellaneous	33
	Bibliography	34
	Composite Map of the Gilbert and Ellice Groups; including a sketch plan of Tarawa, showing the general configuration of a typical lagoon island of the Equator.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

The 25 islands of the Gilbert and Ellice Groups form a chain of coral atolls in mid-Pacific, lying between latitudes 4° North and 11° South, and longitudes 172° and 180° East.

Beside these two Groups the Colony contains Ocean Island, some 250 miles to westward, and Fanning, Washington, and Christmas Islands, some 1,800 miles to eastward, of the Gilbert Group. The various components of the Colony are so scattered that a rectangle of a million square miles of ocean would not contain them all; and yet their aggregate area amounts to less than 200 square miles of land.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Govt. Pub.
Sutherland
2-18-38

Geologically speaking, Ocean Island stands alone in the Colony, being an island of the " upheaved " type: its highest point is 280 ft. above sea-level. This island, which is the Colony headquarters, is 1,500 acres in extent and possesses large deposits of phosphate of lime. All the other islands belong to the Central Pacific " area of subsidence ", having been formed by the upward growth of coral around the flanks of mountains long since submerged. The average island only rises about 20 ft. above sea-level, and seldom exceeds a width of five furlongs from beach to beach. The atolls are mere ribbons of land from about 5 to 50 miles long, enclosing lagoons in most cases, and topped with a soil so sandy that it will support no useful plant save the coconut, and pandanus palm, and coarse edible tubers of the taro (calladium) and babai (alocasia indica) families laboriously cultivated by the natives.

The climate is warm but not humid, and is tempered by the trade winds. The nights are cool for equatorial regions. The Colony is free from malaria and fevers of the typhoid group. In normal seasons the annual rainfall ranges from about 40 ins. in the vicinity of the Equator to about 100 ins. in the Northern Gilberts and 120 ins. in the Southern Ellice Islands. In normal seasons the wettest months are December, January and February, while the months with least rainfall are September and October. Ocean Island and the Gilbert Group with the exception of the islands of Little Makin and Butaritari are subject to drought. Fanning Island and the Southern Ellice Islands appear to be outside that area where drought conditions may be expected. Occasional west to north-west gales occur between October and March, but the wind does not reach hurricane force. The Colony lies between the northern and southern equatorial hurricane belts.

The identity of the pre-Gilbertese inhabitants of the Colony is still a matter of mystery. A reconstruction of Gilbertese legendary history, however, indicates that these islands were originally invaded by a Melano-Polynesian folk who came from Indonesia through the Marshall and Caroline Groups. The majority of the host swarmed southwards to Samoa, only a few remaining behind in these islands. After some seven centuries those who had invaded Samoa were ejected and migrated northwards, overrunning and settling in the Gilbert Islands where some of their ancestral descendants were still in occupation. None appears to have settled in the Ellice Islands during this migration from Samoa.

This northward migration must undoubtedly have taken the form of a gradual infiltration from Samoa back to the Gilberts, but four main parties are generally recognized as outstanding. Two of these eventually settled in the Northern Islands, one at Nikunau in the south, and one at Beru and Onotoa. The

Digitized by Google

social development of the Southern Islands appears to have proceeded along very much more democratic lines than that of the north, which leant towards a monarchical form of society. The two systems shortly came into conflict at Beru, which was invaded and conquered by the King of Butaritari; but the success of the monarchical element was short-lived and the invaders were subsequently expelled with the help of warriors from other Southern Islands. The position was reversed some generations later, when warriors from Beru and Nikunau set out upon a general conquering movement northwards and succeeded in implanting, with varying degrees of success, the social customs of the south among all the Gilbert Islands as far north as Marakei. The kingdoms of the north—Butaritari and Little Makin, Marakei, Abaiang, Tarawa, Maiana and the central islands of Abemama, Aranuka and Kuria—after passing through vicissitudes and experiencing many changes of fortune, exist to this day, but with very much reduced influence. A dynasty which previously held sway over part of Tabiteuea is now to all intents and purposes extinct.

The history of Ocean Island shows many affinities with that of the Gilbert Islands. It appears that the aboriginal inhabitants, like those of the Gilberts, suffered an invasion in early days from Gilolo and the neighbouring islands of the East Indies, and that the majority of the latter passed on in the fullness of time to Samoa, while a small remnant remained and intermarried with the original inhabitants of the Island. As related above, the Samoa " colony " eventually returned to the Gilbert Islands and, of these, a party from Beru journeyed to Ocean Island about 11 generations ago. They dominated the inhabitants and partitioned the major part of the island amongst themselves, establishing an equilibrium between invaders and invaded in a form which is in most respects unaltered to the present day.

Available information indicates that the history of the Ellice Islands is less complex than that of the Gilberts. All evidence points to the conclusion that they are a people of homogeneous culture, while legends—when read in the light of family genealogies—suggest that the settlement of the Group occurred about the 16th century of our era. The Ellice Islanders are generally regarded as a branch of the Polynesian race, while their traditions show that the earliest settlers came from the islands of eastern Samoa, and there appears to have been an infusion of Tongan blood at a later date owing to the marauding voyages of natives of that Group.

The island of Nui in the Ellice Islands must be regarded as having a history somewhat apart from that of the rest of the Group, for the islanders speak a dialect of Gilbertese, while their physical and mental characteristics also suggest strong

Digitized by Google

affinities with that race. It is assumed that the original Polynesian inhabitants of the island were at some time overwhelmed by a Gilbertese invasion, probably from the islands of Tabiteuea and Tarawa, and that the invaders killed off the majority of the men, and intermarried with the women.

The Gilbert Group was discovered, piecemeal, by British naval officers between 1765 and 1824; the Ellice Group, between 1781 and 1819. The first known white trader came to the Gilberts in 1837, and was responsible for the introduction of rum and guns to the natives of Tarawa. By 1846, when Commodore Wilkes of the United States Navy visited the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, not a few beachcombers and traders had established themselves in both Groups. This was a period of great violence, when native factions were incited and actually led to battle by fugitives from the prisons of civilization, and the native name for the white man was " The Killer ".

In 1857 the first missionary, Hiram Bingham, of the American (Boston) Board of Foreign Missions, preached Christianity in the Gilbert Islands. Between the 'fifties and the early 'nineties of last century, the Ellice Group became the happy hunting ground of the " black birders ", who kidnapped thousands of natives for forced labour in the coffee plantations of Central America, and also introduced measles to the race. By these two evils the race was reduced from over 20,000 souls to under 3,000.

In 1892 the two Groups were proclaimed a British Protectorate by Captain H. M. Davis, of H.M.S. *Royalist*. The jurisdiction of the Resident Commissioner of the Protectorate was extended to Ocean Island by a Proclamation of 1900. At the expressed desire of the natives both Groups were annexed to His Majesty's dominions as the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony by an Order in Council of the 10th November, 1915.

Ocean Island and Fanning and Washington Islands were included within the boundaries of the Colony by an Order in Council dated the 27th January, 1916. Christmas Island was included by an Order in Council of the 30th July, 1919.

The Union Group (three islands) lying about 250 miles north of Samoa, formerly a part of the Colony, was excluded and placed under the jurisdiction of the Governor-General of New Zealand by Orders in Council dated the 4th November, 1925.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Colony is under the charge of a Resident Commissioner who resides at Ocean Island, which is the Colony headquarters, and who is responsible to the High Commissioner for the

Digitized by Google

social development of the Southern Islands appears to have proceeded along very much more democratic lines than that of the north, which leant towards a monarchical form of society. The two systems shortly came into conflict at Beru, which was invaded and conquered by the King of Butaritari; but the success of the monarchical element was short-lived and the invaders were subsequently expelled with the help of warriors from other Southern Islands. The position was reversed some generations later, when warriors from Beru and Nikunau set out upon a general conquering movement northwards and succeeded in implanting, with varying degrees of success, the social customs of the south among all the Gilbert Islands as far north as Marakei. The kingdoms of the north—Butaritari and Little Makin, Marakei, Abaiang, Tarawa, Maiana and the central islands of Abemama, Aranuka and Kuria—after passing through vicissitudes and experiencing many changes of fortune, exist to this day, but with very much reduced influence. A dynasty which previously held sway over part of Tabiteuea is now to all intents and purposes extinct.

The history of Ocean Island shows many affinities with that of the Gilbert Islands. It appears that the aboriginal inhabitants, like those of the Gilberts, suffered an invasion in early days from Gilolo and the neighbouring islands of the East Indies, and that the majority of the latter passed on in the fullness of time to Samoa, while a small remnant remained and intermarried with the original inhabitants of the Island. As related above, the Samoa " colony " eventually returned to the Gilbert Islands and, of these, a party from Beru journeyed to Ocean Island about 11 generations ago. They dominated the inhabitants and partitioned the major part of the island amongst themselves, establishing an equilibrium between invaders and invaded in a form which is in most respects unaltered to the present day.

Available information indicates that the history of the Ellice Islands is less complex than that of the Gilberts. All evidence points to the conclusion that they are a people of homogeneous culture, while legends—when read in the light of family genealogies—suggest that the settlement of the Group occurred about the 16th century of our era. The Ellice Islanders are generally regarded as a branch of the Polynesian race, while their traditions show that the earliest settlers came from the islands of eastern Samoa, and there appears to have been an infusion of Tongan blood at a later date owing to the marauding voyages of natives of that Group.

The island of Nui in the Ellice Islands must be regarded as having a history somewhat apart from that of the rest of the Group, for the islanders speak a dialect of Gilbertese, while their physical and mental characteristics also suggest strong

Digitized by Google

affinities with that race. It is assumed that the original Polynesian inhabitants of the island were at some time overwhelmed by a Gilbertese invasion, probably from the islands of Tabiteuea and Tarawa, and that the invaders killed off the majority of the men, and intermarried with the women.

The Gilbert Group was discovered, piecemeal, by British naval officers between 1765 and 1824; the Ellice Group, between 1781 and 1819. The first known white trader came to the Gilberts in 1837, and was responsible for the introduction of rum and guns to the natives of Tarawa. By 1846, when Commodore Wilkes of the United States Navy visited the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, not a few beachcombers and traders had established themselves in both Groups. This was a period of great violence, when native factions were incited and actually led to battle by fugitives from the prisons of civilization, and the native name for the white man was " The Killer ".

In 1857 the first missionary, Hiram Bingham, of the American (Boston) Board of Foreign Missions, preached Christianity in the Gilbert Islands. Between the 'fifties and the early 'nineties of last century, the Ellice Group became the happy hunting ground of the " black birders ", who kidnapped thousands of natives for forced labour in the coffee plantations of Central America, and also introduced measles to the race. By these two evils the race was reduced from over 20,000 souls to under 3,000.

In 1892 the two Groups were proclaimed a British Protectorate by Captain H. M. Davis, of H.M.S. *Royalist*. The jurisdiction of the Resident Commissioner of the Protectorate was extended to Ocean Island by a Proclamation of 1900. At the expressed desire of the natives both Groups were annexed to His Majesty's dominions as the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony by an Order in Council of the 10th November, 1915.

Ocean Island and Fanning and Washington Islands were included within the boundaries of the Colony by an Order in Council dated the 27th January, 1916. Christmas Island was included by an Order in Council of the 30th July, 1919.

The Union Group (three islands) lying about 250 miles north of Samoa, formerly a part of the Colony, was excluded and placed under the jurisdiction of the Governor-General of New Zealand by Orders in Council dated the 4th November, 1925.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Colony is under the charge of a Resident Commissioner who resides at Ocean Island, which is the Colony headquarters, and who is responsible to the High Commissioner for the

Digitized by Google

Western Pacific who resides in Fiji. There is no Executive or Legislative Council. Ordinances are enacted by the High Commissioner under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893.

The Colony is sub-divided into five administrative districts, each under the charge of a European officer who is responsible to the Resident Commissioner. The headquarters of these districts are at Tarawa, Butaritari and Beru in the Gilbert Group, Funafuti in the Ellice Group, and at Fanning Island.

Much of the work of administration is done by the natives themselves. Each Island which has an indigenous population has its own native Government, constituted under the provisions of the Native Laws Ordinance, 1917, and presided over by a native Magistrate whose duties include the administration of the native laws and regulations, and the supervision of the island police, prisoners and prisons. The native Government maintains law and order under the general supervision of the European Administrative Officer of the district of which the island forms part. Each village is in charge of one or more local " Kaubure " (headmen) according to its size and situation. The Magistrate in session with village Kaubure constitutes a monthly Court. On him falls the greater bulk of the executive work and responsibility and, except during the few days in each month when the native Court is in session, it is he who exercises general control, issues instructions, and decides questions on matters affecting the people as a whole. On each island there is a Chief of Kaubure whose duties are to represent the collective opinions of the Kaubure at meetings of the native Court and, while assisting and advising the native Magistrate in matters concerning the administration of the island, to discharge the duties of that official should he be absent through illness or any other unavoidable cause. On each island also is a native Scribe who collects licence fees, fines, and tax copra from the natives, keeps records of Government cash received and disbursed, births, marriages, deaths, rainfall, shipping, and minutes of native Court proceedings, in prescribed books. He is also the local Postmaster.

There are no native Governments at the islands of Fanning, Washington, Christmas or Niulakita, where the native population is not indigenous but represents native labour employed by various commercial concerns for the purpose of producing copra for export.

III.—POPULATION.

Births and deaths are recorded on each island by the Native Scribe, who is also responsible for making an annual count of the population. The figures arrived at in the latter case, how-

Digitized by Google

ever, are far from reliable, and the figures quoted below are those of the last accurate census (taken in 1931):—

	Europeans.	*Natives.*	*Half-castes.*	*Asiatics.*	*Totals.*
Ocean Island ...	129	1,780	—	400	2,309
Gilbert Islands:—					
Makin ...	1	718	4	1	724
Butaritari ...	16	1,579	64	14	1,673
Marakei	6	1,634	9	—	1,649
Abaiang	6	2,565	20	1	2,592
Tarawa	23	2,959	25	6	3,013
Maiana	1	1,383	17	5	1,406
Abemama ...	7	876	8	2	893
Kuria	1	211	11	—	223
Aranuka ...	1	285	6	—	292
Nonouti	4	2,235	13	3	2,255
Tabiteuea ...	6	3,678	15	3	3,702
Beru	10	2,225	5	1	2,241
Nikunau ...	4	1,665	5	—	1,674
Onotoa	—	1,628	10	1	1,639
Tamana	—	989	—	—	989
Arorae	—	1,450	1	—	1,451
Floating	8	98	6	—	112
Totals ...	94	26,178	219	37	26,528
Ellice Islands:—					
Nanumea ...	—	770	—	—	770
Nanumanga ...	—	423	1	—	424
Niutao	—	645	—	—	645
Nui	—	410	—	—	410
Vaitupu	2	715	3	—	720
Nukufetau ...	—	389	5	—	394
Funafuti ...	2	405	6	—	413
Nukulaelae ...	—	178	—	—	178
Nurakita ...	—	40	—	—	40
Floating	9	70	1	—	80
Totals ...	13	4,045	16	—	4,074
Fanning Island District:—					
Fanning Island, *Washington Island*	34	431	—	2	467
Christmas Island	5	33	—	—	38
Totals ...	39	464	—	2	505
Colony Totals	275	32,467	235	439	33,416

Digitized by Google

The population of most islands now shows a steady increase, as is demonstrated by the following table of vital statistics for the years subsequent to the census quoted above:—

Year.	*Native births in Colony.*	*Native deaths in Colony.*	*Difference.*
*1930–31	1,099	774	+325
*1931–32	1,227	802	+425
†1932–33	1,690	1,037	+653
1934	1,112	832	+280
1935	1,139	997	+142
1936	1,159	1,355	−196
Totals	7,426	5,797	+1,629

* July—June.
† 18 months: July, 1932—December, 1933.

The adverse figures for 1936 are due to mortality in the measles and dysentery epidemics to which reference is made in Chapter IV of this Report.

The rate of infantile mortality was 245·90 per 1,000 births.

IV.—HEALTH.

Hospitals and Asylums.

The Medical Department is administered from Tarawa Island, and the Tarawa Central Hospital, which is a Colony Government hospital, is the chief medical institution in the Group. Cases of sickness which cannot be treated by native dressers at island hospitals are sent to Tarawa Central Hospital for operative or other treatment at the hands of the senior staff. The Senior Medical Officer is resident at this hospital.

The following statistics show the medical work of the Tarawa Central Hospital during 1936.

In-patients treated	222
Treatments to out-patients	3,920
Operations performed	264
Anti-yaws injections given	341
Deaths in hospital	10

The Funafuti Hospital is also a Colony Government hospital. It is the central hospital for the Ellice Islands Group and to it cases for medical and operative treatment are brought whenever the opportunity offers. During the whole of the year the hospital has been in charge of native medical practitioners assisted by a staff of native dressers and nurses. The following figures show the work performed at the Funafuti Hospital during 1936:—

In-patients treated	165
Treatments to out-patients	2,816
Operations performed	177
Anti-yaws injections given	430
Deaths in hospital	10

Digitized by Google

Central Leper Asylum, Tarawa.—Since 7th November, 1935, when all cases of leprosy at this asylum were transferred to the Central Leper Asylum at Makogai, Fiji, no cases have been admitted to the Tarawa Asylum. The dressers on the various islands are quick to recognize cases of leprosy among the people under their care and take steps to isolate them until such time as they can be seen by a medical officer and brought to the asylum. Several evident cases of leprosy were isolated on their respective islands during the year.

Island hospitals.—These are established at each of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. On two of the Gilbert Islands there are two hospitals. All these hospitals are staffed and supplied with medicines, etc., by the Colony Government from the Tarawa Central Hospital in the Gilbert Islands and from the Funafuti Hospital in the Ellice Islands. Each island dresser travels about his island regularly in addition to attending to his patients at the hospital. At each of the larger islands there are at least two dressers, but at every hospital there is one dresser who is able to perform minor operations such as the extraction of teeth or the repair of injuries, and who is also able to give intravenous injections of novarsenobillon for the treatment of yaws. The following figures show the work done by the dressers in the Group during the year:—

In-patients treated	5,708
Treatments to out-patients	51,326
Operations performed	2,131
Anti-yaws injections given	10,929
Deaths at island hospitals	502

Mental Asylum.—This is an adjunct to the Tarawa Central Hospital and is under the direct control of the Senior Medical Officer. All patients are well cared for and the majority perform light duty which keeps them fit physically and helps considerably to improve their mental condition.

The following are the figures of admissions, discharges, etc.:—

In Asylum at end of 1935	11
Admitted during 1936	3
Discharged during 1936	1
Deaths during 1936	1
Remaining at end of 1936	12

General Health Work.

Yaws.—The incidence of evident yaws in the Group has declined greatly. As has been stated, island dressers are able to give weekly injections for the treatment of this crippling disease, and the beneficial effect of this work is quite evident to anyone travelling through the various villages. The natives have come to put so much faith in these injections that they present themselves at the hospitals on injection days without

Digitized by Google

any persuasion on the part of the dresser. Such is their faith that many persons who feel " a bit run down " or who have some slight or imaginary pains also come for injections which, they state, make them feel strong again. No person who presents himself for treatment is refused.

Tuberculosis still remains the most fatal of the common maladies of the natives. However, the incidence of tubercular adenitis which was so common some years ago, is certainly now diminishing. No doubt the operative measures which have been practised in the Colony during recent years, combined with the administration of malt and cod-liver oil and other vitamin-containing substances such as " ostelin " have had a great deal to do with the reduction of the incidence of tubercular adenitis in children. Other manifestations of tuberculosis, however, continue to appear.

Filariasis and Elephantiasis occur but rarely in the Gilbert Islands but they are very common in the Ellice Islands Group. Much work has been done in the Ellice Islands for the relief of this condition.

Malaria.—Fortunately this disease does not occur in the Colony.

Venereal Disease.—This is very rare. Syphilis is unknown in the Colony but a few cases of gonorrhoea occur, which, however, respond readily to simple treatment.

Chickenpox is endemic but fatalities are rare.

Smallpox has never been introduced into the Colony. Strict precautions are, of course, taken against its introduction and almost all the population have been vaccinated during the past two or three years.

Measles and Dysentery.—In March an epidemic of measles occurred in the Group, the infection being brought to the Colony through the Ellice Islands by a vessel from Fiji. Fifteen islands were affected, there being 14,282 cases out of a population of 22,946. The epidemic was directly responsible for 100 deaths.

Unfortunately this epidemic was complicated by an outbreak of dysentery which affected 1,882 persons and caused 377 deaths.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Except at such places as Mission schools where discipline is, of necessity, strict, no organized child welfare work is at present possible in the Gilbert Islands. The people have yet to learn the elements of hygiene. European Officers of the Medical Department have not had the time or opportunities to give systematic instruction to the Gilbertese in relation to public

Digitized by Google

health, but it is hoped that, in the near future, native medical practitioners will be able to bring about an improvement in the hygiene of the living conditions of the natives. Until such training is in being, it is impossible to attempt anything in the way of child welfare work in the Gilbert Islands. At present a Medical Officer, either European or Native, is seldom if ever consulted by expectant native mothers, and confinements are usually conducted by some old native woman who, through custom, has become recognized by the natives as a midwife.

In the Ellice Islands the people are far more intelligent and enterprising than in the Gilbert Islands and, by much hard work, the Medical Officer and Staff previously stationed there were able to train young girls as nurses. These nurses did, and, in a small way, still do, good work among their own people in the care and treatment and feeding of infants.

V.—HOUSING.

The residents of the Colony may be classified under five main headings, namely: Europeans, Asiatic traders, natives living in their villages, indentured Asiatic labourers, and indentured native labourers.

The standard of housing which prevails amongst Europeans is generally high. European dwellings of the older type are mostly built of timber, with iron roofs, and have extensive verandahs. Of recent years however there has been a tendency to follow a more solid style of building in concrete with tile roofs, and the open verandahs appear to be losing ground in popularity to airy rooms of a more normal type. On account of the erratic rainfall in most parts of the Colony, European houses have necessarily to be equipped with large cisterns. A number of Europeans also live in houses built of native materials. Houses of this type are generally cool, but require considerable upkeep.

Asiatic traders mostly live in houses of European construction.

The native dwellings generally found in the villages consist of three separate buildings, used respectively as living and sleeping houses, eating houses, and cooking houses. The most common style of native house in the Gilbert Islands consists of a raised floor of coconut midribs laid side by side, surmounted by a roof of pandanus thatch. In the Ellice Islands the tendency is to use a platform of lime-concrete instead of the midrib floor.

The Chinese labourers employed on Ocean Island are housed in a location which contains dwellings, mess rooms and offices, and two spacious recreation rooms. The work is carried out in reinforced concrete and fibrolite, and the roofs are fibrolite-tiled.

Digitized by Google

The married native labourers at Ocean Island, with their wives and families, are housed in quarters which consist of a timber frame and floor raised some two feet above the ground on concrete piles. The roofs are fibrolite-tiled. The houses are partitioned medially, one-half of each being allotted to a family.

The quarters of the indentured native labour at Fanning Island are also of European construction.

All buildings occupied by indentured labour are subject to regular inspection by Medical Officers and Officers of Government, and in this way a high standard of housing conditions is maintained.

The maintenance of sanitary conditions in all dwellings is enforceable under the Colony's Public Health Ordinance, while the housing of labourers is, in addition, subject to the Labour Regulations.

There are no building societies in the Colony.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The principal products of the Colony are phosphate of lime obtained at Ocean Island, and copra from all other islands. Shark fins are also exported, but in all but negligible quantity.

Phosphate of lime.—The most important product is the phosphate of lime mined on Ocean Island by the British Phosphate Commissioners. The deposits of the mineral on Ocean Island and the neighbouring island of Nauru (also worked by the British Phosphate Commissioners) give a higher phosphoric acid reaction than those of any other known area. All the phosphate mined is exported.

The quantities and values of phosphate exported during the five calendar years 1932-6, are shown in the following table:—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.* £
1932	196,875	265,781
1933	188,150	251,917
1934	211,250	279,906
1935	228,100	248,936
1936	394,500	384,637

The Europeans employed by the British Phosphate Commissioners are engaged in the United Kingdom or Australia for limited periods according to the nature of their respective duties. The Chinese are engaged in Hong Kong and sign a three-years

Digitized by Google

agreement. They are not accompanied by their womenfolk. The Gilbertese labourers are recruited under the provisions of King's Regulation No. 1 of 1915 and amending Ordinances. Their term of service is 12 months, subject to extension by mutual consent, and one-third of their number are accompanied by their wives and a limited number of children.

Copra is the product of all islands in the Colony except Ocean Island. The lands are worked on plantation lines at Niulakita in the Ellice Islands (owned by Messrs. Burns, Philp (South Sea) Company, Limited), at Fanning and Washington Islands (Fanning Island Plantations, Limited) and at Christmas Island (Central Pacific Coconut Plantations, Limited). Labourers from Vaitupu are employed in working the lands at Niulakita, Gilbertese recruits at Fanning and Washington Islands, and Tahitians at Christmas Island. In the remainder of the Gilbert and Ellice Groups all the coconut-bearing lands are in the hands of natives. These lands are not cultivated in accordance with recognized plantation methods, and the copra represents coconuts in excess of those which are required by the natives for domestic consumption.

The quantities and values of copra exported during the five calendar years 1932-6 are shown in the following table:—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.* £
1932	6,559	66,077
1933	6,968	67,978
1934	5,259	31,225
1935	7,316	69,490
1936	5,636	67,146

Mat-making.—The mats woven by native women of pandanus leaf are among the finest in the Pacific. The Gilbertese mats depend upon texture and finish for their appeal; those made in the Ellice Islands are less finely plaited, but are decorated with woven designs of striking colour. Hats of a texture and durability equal to the best Panama are also produced in certain of the Southern Gilbert Islands, and can be made to any size or shape, if blocks are supplied. Fans are manufactured of prepared leaf and coloured feathers. Baskets and bags of beautiful design and workmanship can be made to any pattern. There is no limit to the ingenuity of the native women in the manufacture of fine plaited articles. There is, however, only a local market for them.

Pearl shell exists in the lagoon of Christmas Island, but the lessees (Central Pacific Coconut Plantations, Limited), do not pay much attention to the export of this commodity.

Digitized by Google

VII.—COMMERCE.

Details of the goods imported during the financial year ended the 30th June, 1936, are as follows:—

General Description.	*Value.* £
Apparel	2,141
Benzine	767
Building material	1,449
Bicycles	1,094
Biscuits	5,891
Cement	1,641
Coal	6,238
Cotton piece goods	6,234
Crude oil	2,288
Drapery, sundry	1,705
Electrical and radio goods	3,979
Explosives	1,072
Fish	5,029
Flour	2,290
Fruits and vegetables	5,128
Hardware	4,650
Iron and steel	946
Kerosene	1,163
Lubricating oil	1,373
Machinery	9,779
Meats	10,614
Milk	1,247
Provisions, sundry	4,246
Rice	6,260
Spirits, wines, beer, etc.	3,582
Sugar	2,773
Tea and Coffee	856
Timber	3,253
Tobacco	5,832
Miscellaneous	25,328
	£128,848

The gross value of imports and the gross value and tonnage of exports for the five years ended 30th June, 1936, were respectively:—

Year.	*Imports.* £	*Exports.* *Value.* £	*Exports.* *Tonnage.*
1931–32	114,511	259,120	148,915
1932–33	117,920	398,068	233,200
1933–34	94,429	259,843	179,276
1934–35	117,060	340,068	241,559
1935–36	128,848	366,887	329,619

Digitized by Google

The following table shows the distribution of these imports amongst the various countries of origin:—

	£
United Kingdom	25,071
Australia	56,096
New Zealand	8,641
Canada	4,199
Hong Kong	2,442
India (including Burma)...	2,482
Other parts of the British Empire	1,622
United States of America	10,413
Dutch East Indies	4,241
China	2,419
Japan	1,872
Germany	2,543
Siam	1,284
Other foreign countries	2,415
Unspecified	3,109

Nearly all the phosphate of lime is exported to Australia or New Zealand and is carried mainly in British ships. On rare occasions a shipment is sent to Europe, the balance being mostly consigned to Japan.

The price paid locally for copra showed an encouraging rise in sympathy with the rising London price for this commodity. During 1935 the local price to traders averaged only about £3 10s. per ton, and this increased during 1936 to £4 5s. and, at the end of the year, to £5. Native production of copra, however, suffered a considerable setback during the measles epidemic between June and October.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Europeans.—Europeans in the service of the Government and industrial and trading concerns are provided with free partly furnished quarters. Unmarried employees of the British Phosphate Commissioners receive free board, lodging, and laundry. All houses on Ocean Island are lighted by electricity which is supplied free to employees of the Commissioners; other Europeans pay for the service. With ordinary economy a married couple at Ocean Island can live on about £28 a month and a bachelor on about £20 a month. These amounts would not however include provision for luxuries and normal entertainment expenses. The cost of living in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands in the same style would be approximately 20 per cent. higher than the figures given above.

Chinese.—Chinese mechanics employed by the British Phosphate Commissioners on Ocean Island receive an average wage of £6 10s. a month, and coolie labour from 32s. to 36s. a month, with rations, quarters and lighting in both cases.

Digitized by Google

Natives.—On Ocean Island native labourers employed by the British Phosphate Commissioners under contract receive £1 12s. a month with rations, quarters, and lighting, and a bonus of 8s. a month for satisfactory work. Casual labourers receive 4s. a day without (or a lesser wage per diem with) rations or quarters. In other parts of the Colony the wages vary according to the locality and the nature of the employment. Labour employed under signed contract is paid from £1 a month with quarters and rations to £5 a month without rations. Casual labourers receive from 2s. to 5s. a day, according to whether free rations are issued or not. Salaries of native employees of the Government range from £12 to over £200 a year. They also receive ration allowances and free quarters.

General.—Where rations are issued they are on a liberal scale. All working tools are provided by the employer. No labourer is required to work for more than nine hours a day with a maximum of fifty hours a week. Only those engaged on necessary services are required to work on Sunday. A capitation tax of £10 a year is payable in respect of each non-native employed in the Colony. Although the individual is liable, it is the practice for the employer to pay the tax.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

It is usual in the Western Pacific for the missions to shoulder the task of education, both before and after the coming of Government. This was the case in this Colony, and education is still mostly in the hands of the London Missionary Society and the Sacred Heart Mission. Local education may be said to have its beginning 80 years ago, when Dr. Hiram Bingham of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions landed in the Northern Gilberts in Abaiang Island. Bingham reduced the Gilbertese tongue to writing, prepared a dictionary (still the most used to-day), and translated the Bible into a version that has formed and fixed the literary language.

Between 1857, the year of Bingham, and 1900, religious and secular instruction was carried out mostly by native teachers of foreign race. Hawaiian teachers worked in the Northern Gilberts. The London Missionary Society placed Samoan teachers in the islands of the Ellice Group in 1865, and in the Southern Gilbert Islands in 1870. The Sacred Heart Mission commenced work in the Central Gilbert Islands in 1888 with natives Christianized while working as recruited labourers in Tahiti and Samoa. Mission ships of the early times, successively and severally called the *Morning Star* and the *John Williams,* ensured superintendence of mission work by white missionaries. After 1900 a scheme of internal control was instituted, and central training schools were established by the London Missionary Society and the Sacred Heart Mission, where local students

Digitized by Google

were trained for the dual role of pastor or religious leader and teacher. Village education was then extended, until every village had its one or two teachers. The American Board handed over its area to the London Missionary Society in 1917. The scheme of internal control has continued until the present time. The Ellice Group, however, has remained under the management of the Samoan unit of the London Missionary Society.

The Education Department of the Colony came into being in 1920. A day school for the Banaban boys, Ocean Island, was started in 1920. The cost has been a charge against the communal funds of the Banaban natives. A boarding school for selected native boys of the Gilbert Group was opened in 1922, with the object of building up a native service. A boarding school on similar lines was opened in the Ellice Group in 1924. The local natives gave considerable help with the capital expenditure of this school. A school for European children on Ocean Island was started in 1929. By the time that the scheme for the training of educated natives of Pacific countries as native medical practitioners had become possible, the Colony was able to supply students for the allotted places. There are now eight native medical practitioners serving in the Medical Department, and five students are in training at the Central Medical School, Suva. Numbers of ex-students of Government schools are also in other Departments, and the inclusive total in all Departments is now 40.

The academic advance of these years was shared by the mission central schools, the principal of which had received annual grants-in-aid from 1918 onwards, but the village schools lagged behind owing to geographical peculiarities and stringency of mission funds. As soon as satisfactory stability had been given to direct Government education, the extension of aided education to village schools was surveyed as to possibilities. The result was a scheme of co-operation between Government and missions for the improvement of village education whereby mission native teachers were to be trained at the Government School in the Gilbert Group, the King George V School. This scheme endured from 1930 to 1934, and after 35 teachers had been trained it was suspended for financial and other reasons. However, 25 per cent. of the school children in the Gilbert Group have come under the instruction of the trained teachers in schools (now called improved village schools). During the year under review recommendations were made for the resumption of the training of village teachers, this time, however, with mission teaching, under Government rules. A former grant-in-aid is to serve for the support of this teacher-training; and also for village school equipment since the sum can now be increased.

Digitized by Google

The recommendations regarding teacher-training were part of a memorandum prepared for the definition of educational policy. Other parts of the memorandum were concerned with the respective duties of officers in the Education Department, and with the future of the Banaban and European Schools at Ocean Island. The matter of vernacular text books for Gilbertese schools is now very satisfactory. An attempt to bring about uniformity in the spelling of Gilbertese has had a considerable, though not complete, measure of success. The above were the outstanding events of the year.

General statistics of schools are as follows: four Government Schools with 143 pupils, two European teachers and five native teachers; 17 mission boarding schools with 844 pupils, 34 European teachers and 18 native teachers; 28 improved village schools with 1,380 pupils and 28 native teachers; 125 ordinary village schools with 4,361 pupils and 175 native teachers. Expenditure on education during the last financial year amounted to £3,849 7s., and was the lowest sum spent on education for many years. The amount represented 6·3 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Colony. It was distributed as follows: Administration, £735 10s. 5d.; King George V School, £1,226 11s. 8d.; Ellice Islands School, £381 18s. 3d.; Banaban School, £135 4s. 1d.; European School, £507 2s. 7d.; Mission Training Schools, £400; Mission Village Education, £363; Other Mission Education, £100.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

The following is a summary of the overseas vessels which called at Ocean Island and Tarawa (Gilbert Islands) during the year 1936:—

From	*Ocean Island.*	*Tarawa.*
Nauru	25	—
Australia	21	1
New Zealand	15	—
Japan	20	—
Philippines	1	—
Fiji	—	1
New Guinea	—	2
Tahiti	—	1
Marshall Islands	—	3
	—	—
	82	8
	—	—

Some of the vessels which visit Ocean Island discharge mails and stores and then proceed to the neighbouring island of Nauru to load a cargo of phosphate. The remainder carry phosphate from Ocean Island to various ports in Australia and New Zealand, and occasionally to China, Japan and Europe.

There is no regular trade route between Ocean Island and the Gilbert and Ellice Groups, and the latter rely mainly upon the

Digitized by Google

Government vessel *Nimanoa* for mails to be brought over from Ocean Island. Occasional communication is also provided by vessels, chiefly from Australia, which visit Tarawa and Butaritari for the purpose of exporting copra. The London Missionary Society's vessel *John Williams V* which visits the Colony from Suva three times a year, also provides communication with the outside world.

Tarawa is generally regarded as the distributing centre within the two Groups, communication between the islands of which is maintained by the Government vessel and by coastal copra schooners owned by Messrs. Burns, Philp (South Sea) Company, Limited, and Messrs. On Chong and Company, Limited.

Direct communication with the islands of the Fanning Island District is available only on those occasions when labour for the copra plantations is recruited—normally at intervals of from two to three years. The normal means of communication is through Suva and Australia.

Roads.

The roads in the islands of the Gilbert and Ellice Groups are made of reef mud and, though not of elaborate construction, are adequate for the needs of the islands. The majority are firm enough to support light motor bicycle traffic, though the practicability of wheeled transport is limited on most islands by the frequent breaks in the land where the ocean connects with the lagoon.

The roads at Ocean Island are rough but have been found quite suitable for motor transport.

Telephones and Telegraphs.

There is a telephone system in operation at Ocean Island comprising some 40 subscribers. This system is mainly the property of the British Phosphate Commissioners. There are no other inland telephone or telegraph services in the Colony.

Wireless communications is available for public use through the following stations:—

Ocean Island Radio, V.Q.K., is owned by the Government and serves as the clearing point for all traffic into and out of the Colony (with the exception of a small volume of traffic which passes direct between Suva and Funafuti). The Station, which is equipped with a modern short and medium wave 500-watt transmitter, maintains schedules with Suva, Rabaul, Nauru, Tarawa, Butaritari, Beru, Funafuti and shipping.

Tarawa Radio, V.S.Z., is owned by Messrs. Burns, Philp (South Sea) Company, Limited, and communicates, on a power of 500 watts, with Ocean Island, Butaritari, Beru and shipping.

Beru Radio, Z.C.C., belongs to the London Missionary Society and maintains a public service with Tarawa, Butaritari and Ocean Island.

Digitized by Google

Butaritari Radio, Z.K.G., is operated by Messrs. On Chong and Company, Limited, and communicates, on 250 watts, with Ocean Island, Tarawa, Beru and shipping.

Funafuti Radio, Z.J.U., is the private property of the Administrative Officer at present stationed in the Ellice Islands, and has been developed from an amateur station. It maintains a public service in consideration of a Government subsidy, and communicates on about 100 watts with Ocean Island and Suva.

In addition to the above public stations a small station, *V.Q.N.,* is maintained by Messrs. Cable and Wireless Limited at Fanning Island, but is used only on private business for communication with shipping. Ordinary communication with Fanning Island is by cable from Suva.

A 500-watt radio telephone, *V.Q.M.,* is maintained at Ocean Island by the British Phosphate Commissioners and communicates, on their private business, with Nauru and the Commissioners' vessels.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

An agency of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (Savings Bank Branch) is established on Ocean Island. The rate of interest during the period under review was 2 per cent. per annum on the first £500 at credit of each account and 1¾ per cent. per annum on the excess of balance of £500 to £1,000. There are no banks in the Gilbert and Ellice Groups, where the traders generally have a current account with the principal firms who act as their agents and bankers. Natives may deposit their cash with the Government for safe keeping and may withdraw whatever amounts they may require from any financial officer in any part of the Colony upon personal application and the production of the pass-book. A few natives of the Ellice Islands have opened accounts with the Government Savings Bank in Fiji.

Currency.

All taxes, duties, fees, fines, and wages are payable in British coin, but the currency commonly used in the Colony is Australian. A system of international money orders is established. Postal orders of values from 6d. to £1 are issued from Ocean Island only, but are cashed throughout the Colony.

Weights and Measures.

The local use of standard weights and measures of the United Kingdom is validated by Ordinance No. 10 of 1916.

Digitized by Google

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department Staff consists of a European Superintendent, a European foreman, a Chinese carpenter, four native and half-caste carpenters and three temporary native mechanics.

Seven Chinese mechanics are also engaged on contract, but are not regarded as part of the establishment, their wages being debited to that work upon which they may from time to time be engaged. Unskilled labour is also drawn, when available, from the prisons.

Government buildings in the Gilbert and Ellice Groups are inspected when opportunity offers by the Superintendent of Works. Their upkeep is left in the hands of the head of Department concerned. Native Government stations on outlying islands where there is no European officer are maintained in good order by the communal workers of the island, under the surveillance of the Native Magistrate.

The main feature in the Public Works programme for 1936 was the continuation of the removal of the Government station at Ocean Island from its earlier site (upon which phosphate mining was fast encroaching) to a more secluded position on the north-eastern side of the island. The Accountant's new quarters, which formed part of this programme, were completed during August, and foundations were laid for the new Residency. The Secretariat office had also to be removed from its old site but, as neither time nor available resources permitted of the immediate construction of a permanent new building, it had to be replaced by a hurriedly-erected temporary structure of native materials.

Other new construction at Ocean Island included the building of a large store which has for some time been necessary for the proper keeping of Public Works materials, the continuation of the programme of building houses of an improved type for the married members of the Armed Constabulary, construction of rainwater cisterns in the Banaban villages, and a start on the construction of new quarters for the Superintendent of Works.

No major works of new construction were undertaken in the Gilbert or Ellice Groups.

Maintenance of existing buildings was carried on as usual, and requires no special comment. With the advent of motor traffic at Ocean Island, the upkeep of roads forms a considerable feature in this maintenance work, and a gang has been almost continuously employed in keeping them in adequate condition. Ocean Island has now about 6 miles of road passable by motor traffic. The road is unsurfaced, consisting solely of a levelled top layer spread over the natural hard rocky foundation of the island, and therefore requires continual attention since this surface is readily washed away after any heavy rain.

Digitized by Google

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

Civil and criminal jurisdiction is exercised in the Colony by Deputy Commissioners sitting in Courts constituted under the Pacific Order in Council, 1893. In civil matters appeals may be made from these Courts to the Supreme Court of Fiji (vide Article 88 of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893). As regards criminal jurisdiction, all sentences of imprisonment exceeding six months or of fines exceeding £100, imposed by the Court held otherwise than before the High Commissioner or a Judicial Commissioner, are submitted automatically for review by the Supreme Court of Fiji, sitting as a Court of Appeal (vide Articles 80 and 81). If, in criminal proceedings, the accused is charged with an offence punishable with death or penal servitude for seven years or more, the Deputy Commissioner's Court has no power to try the case, but, if satisfied that there is reasonable ground to put accused upon his trial, must commit him for trial before a Judicial Commissioner.

There is practically no Police Court work in the Colony except at Ocean Island, where, in the absence of a resident judicial officer, the Resident Commissioner or the Administrative Officer carries out the necessary magisterial duties.

The business of the Ocean Island Court is chiefly connected with the application of the provisions of King's Regulation No. 1 of 1915 and Ordinance No. 9 of 1929, which respectively govern the conditions of employment under contract of native and Chinese labourers.

Statistics of the Court's work for the year 1936 are set forth in the following table.

Digitized by Google

STATEMENT SHOWING NUMBER OF PERSONS TRIED IN THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S COURT FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC FOR THE YEAR 1936. OCEAN ISLAND.

Offences.	Tried Summarily.	Nationality.		Fines.	Dismissed.		Imprisoned.		Withdrawn.	
		Native.	Chinese.		Native.	Chinese.	Native.	Chinese.	Native.	Chinese.
				£ s. d.						
Breach of Regulations ...	119	80	39	47 10 6	2	—	1	5	—	—
Larceny	19	—	19	22 10 0	—	3	—	4	—	2
Unlawful possession ...	2	—	2	1 0 0	—	—	—	1	—	—
Assault	4	1	3	5 0 0	—	1	—	2	—	—
Escape from custody ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Assault on police	1	—	1	7 10 0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trading without licence ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Damaging property ...	3	—	3	0 12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	150	81	69	84 2 6	2	4	1	14	—	2

Digitized by Google

There are no practising barristers or solicitors in the Colony.

A code of native laws and the island regulations made thereunder is administered in the Native Courts under the supervision of Administrative Officers, who are empowered to review, alter and amend the sentences which they impose. The justice administered by the Native Courts, though the procedure does not always conform strictly to British rules of Court, is on the whole extremely fair and suitable to the needs of the local native community.

Armed Constabulary.

The Police of the Colony consist of an Armed Constabulary constituted under Ordinance No. 9 of 1916, and an Island Police Force appointed under the Native Laws Ordinance No. 2 of 1917. The Armed Constabulary is under the command of the Resident Commissioner. A European Officer of Constabulary is in charge of the police establishment at Ocean Island. The non-commissioned officers and men are natives, the authorized strength being 81. The Native Magistrate of each island is responsible for the supervision of the Island Police Force, whose total numerical strength in the Colony stands at 266.

Of the 81 non-commissioned officers and men in the Armed Constabulary, 65 are stationed at Ocean Island where regular beat, night patrol, and guard duties are carried out, and special constables are supplied as required to maintain discipline and order. The majority of the police stationed at Ocean Island are Ellice Islanders who have proved themselves to be patient, good natured, and intelligent in handling the mixed races of the community.

Recreation in the form of cricket and football is encouraged, and these together with physical training and bayonet drill, ensure fitness among the members of the Force.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Three Ordinances were enacted during the year under review —firstly, a minor amendment to the Native Passengers Ordinance, secondly an Ordinance authorizing the declaration of Closed Districts within the Colony and the exclusion, except under conditions, of strangers therefrom; and thirdly, an Ordinance amending the licence fees payable by motor vehicles in the Colony.

There is no specific factory legislation in the Colony, but the provisions of Ordinance No. 5 of 1931 provide for the enforcement of certain conventions relating to the employment of women and young children in industrial undertakings. There is no legislative provision for old age, nor legislation dealing with compensation for accidents. It is, however, the practice

Digitized by Google

of commercial firms in the Colony to grant monetary or some other form of compensation to any of their workmen who sustain injuries during the course of their employment. In the event of the workman's decease, monetary compensation is awarded to the dependants.

Section 40 of King's Regulation No. 1 of 1915 and paragraphs 13 to 15 of the Schedule to the Employees Control Ordinance No. 9 of 1929 make provision for the treatment of sickness amongst labourers free of charge.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The totals of the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the last seven years were as follows:—

Year.	*Revenue.*			*Expenditure.*		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1929–30	67,105	11	7	59,324	3	5
1930–31	63,704	16	10	61,453	14	2
1931–32	49,110	10	9	53,946	11	10
1932–33	59,399	17	3	46,753	9	4
1933–34	45,358	16	6	53,299	1	4
1934–35	52,922	19	4	53,983	5	5
1935–36	58,696	17	2	60,744	10	8

Revenue.

The following are the details of revenue for the last three years:—

	1933–4.			*1934–5.*			*1935–6.*		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs Duties	18,253	15	1	13,978	11	6	16,377	7	10
Native Taxes, etc. ...	3,307	1	4	2,965	11	6	4,163	17	9
Licences, etc.	8,522	10	6	3,068	1	2	3,096	19	3
Fees, Reimbursements, etc.	4,499	16	3	3,577	19	8	7,363	15	9
Post Office	394	10	6	1,250	12	2	2,073	6	5
Telegraphs	105	13	6	321	1	10	136	3	6
Royalties	4,880	2	0	5,273	15	0	6,646	15	0
Interest	3,583	17	10	3,686	14	6	2,934	4	2
Miscellaneous	873	19	6	708	10	0	552	5	3
Imperial Grant	937	10	0	750	0	0	750	0	0
Contribution by B.P.C. ...	—			17,342	2	0	14,628	18	10
	£45,358	16	6	£52,922	19	4	£58,696	13	9

Under Ordinance No. 3 of 1934 the British Phosphate Commissioners pay, in lieu of customs duties (at minimum preferential rates), capitation taxes and other taxes levied under Ordinance No. 15 of 1917, a sum equal to the difference between other annual revenue and the total annual expenditure (other

Digitized by Google

than expenditure from surplus balances). The sum thus paid is credited to the Head " Consolidated Contribution to Revenue by the British Phosphate Commissioners " and receipts from taxes, etc., thus commuted show a corresponding decrease.

A further increase was shown in the amount received from native taxes owing to the improvement in the price of copra. Export duty on copra at the *ad valorem* rate of 5 per cent. based on the London price of this commodity at the end of each month also showed an increase for the same reason.

The large increase under Fees, Reimbursements, etc., was due to the recovery of the expenditure incurred in connection with the part removal of Government Headquarters at Ocean Island. This is, however, offset by an increase in expenditure under Public Works (Extraordinary).

An increase in the amount of phosphate shipped from Ocean Island during the period under review resulted in a corresponding increase in revenue received under " Royalties."

Expenditure.

The following are the details of expenditure for the last three years:—

	1933–34.	*1934–35.*	*1935–36.*
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Pensions and Gratuities ...	1,503 6 4	3,430 6 7	2,013 13 1
High Commissioner's Dept. ...	2,497 19 2	2,416 3 2	2,518 19 8
Resident Commissioner's Dept.	2,666 14 2	3,163 1 1	3,100 19 11
Treasury and Customs ...	1,853 18 7	1,960 3 10	2,438 11 2
District Administration ...	3,334 14 7	4,000 19 10	3,397 0 5
Police and Prisons	5,956 19 7	5,079 11 2	4,751 3 6
Defence Forces	55 17 0	62 14 1	48 0 2
Medical Department	9,826 13 2	9,573 15 8	8,848 6 0
Transport (Government Vessel)	7,884 16 7	5,528 17 10	8,944 12 3
Post Office	505 2 2	719 6 3	348 17 4
Telegraphs	1,240 5 4	999 14 0	2,225 8 6
Audit Department	300 3 2	408 0 10	317 10 0
Miscellaneous	3,218 14 4	4,936 8 0	4,397 16 9
Education Department ...	4,383 13 10	3,960 3 7	3,849 7 0
Public Works Department ...	931 1 5	1,064 13 5	1,364 15 10
Public Works (Ann. Recurrent)	1,337 0 1	1,072 6 5	1,452 0 6
Public Works (Extraordinary)	1,974 0 7	1,610 19 10	5,918 10 8
Island Administration ...	3,828 1 3	3,402 5 8	3,778 0 0
Lands Commission :—			
Gilbert Islands	—	543 9 0	769 8 11
Ellice Islands	—	50 5 2	261 9 0
	£53,299 1 4	£53,983 5 5	£60,744 10 8

The increased expenditure under Treasury and Customs is due entirely to the incidence of cost of exchange and interest, both of which were considerably higher than was anticipated.

Digitized by Google

Expenditure on Government vessel (under the Head of Transport) showed a large increase due to the extensive overhaul which was necessary during the year. The cost of this overhaul amounted to £4,666 19s. 1d.

The large increase of expenditure under Telegraphs was due to the purchase of a new transmitter at a cost of £964 18s. 4d.

The increase in expenditure under Public Works (Extraordinary) was due to the inclusion in the accounts of the year under review of part of the cost of the removal of Government Headquarters at Ocean Island amounting to £4,714 5s. 2d. The recovery of this sum is reflected in the increased receipts under Fees, Reimbursements, etc.

Public Debt.

The Colony has no public debt.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets and liabilities of the Colony as on the 30th June, 1936, were as follows:—

	£ s. d.	*Assets.* £ s. d.	*Liabilities.* £ s. d.
Cash :—			
In Colony	5,980 6 9		
In Bank	18,019 10 9		
With Agents, etc.	2,721 10 2		
		26,721 7 8	
Fixed Deposits	... ...	95,000 0 0	
Remittances	... ...	1,120 14 8	
Deposits :—			
Banaban Royalty Fund, invested	... ...		46,164 8 7
Banaban Provident Fund, invested	... ...		34,961 0 3
Banaban Landowners' Fund, invested	... ...		22,500 0 0
Estate of M. Shea, invested	... ...		450 0 0
Other deposits	... ...		24,216 5 7
Advances	... ...	401 7 8	
Joint Colonial Fund	... ...		12,500 0 0
Unallocated Stores	... ...	665 11 1	
Imprests	... ...	4,047 13 4	
Investments :—			
Colony Cash (stocks)	...	21,721 18 5	
Banaban Royalty Fund :—			
Stocks	... ...	28,932 19 11	
Fixed Deposits	... ...	17,231 8 8	
Banaban Provident Fund :—			
Stocks	... ...	12,264 7 0	
Fixed Deposits	... ...	22,696 13 3	
Banaban Landowners (Fixed Deposit)	...	22,500 0 0	
Estate of M. Shea (Savings Bank)	...	450 0 0	
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	... ...		112,962 7 3
		£253,754 1 8	£253,754 1 8

Digitized by Google

Taxation.

Taxes, with the receipts therefrom in 1935-6, were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
(*a*) Import duties	13,450	14	4
(*b*) Export duty on copra	2,936	13	6
(*c*) Native Lands Tax (assessed annually according to productivity of each island, and paid in copra)	3,650	13	0
(*d*) Licences (principally store licences—£1,160, ship licences—£800)	2,549	2	0
(*e*) Capitation Tax, at £10 a head on non-natives of the Pacific Islands (other than public officers, ministers of religion and certain others) ...	456	0	0
(*f*) Contribution to revenue by British Phosphate Commissioners in commutation of taxation ...	14,628	18	10
(*g*) Royalty on phosphate exported from Ocean Island at 6d. per ton	6,646	15	0
	£44,318	16	8

Of the above taxes (*f*) and (*g*) are furnished by the phosphate industry of Ocean Island, and (*b*), (*c*) and the bulk of (*d*) and (*e*) by the native copra-growing industry of the Gilbert and Ellice groups of islands.

Customs Tariff.

A preferential customs tariff in favour of British goods was established by Ordinance No. 2 of 1934 as from the 15th March, 1934. On most classes of imports the preferential duty is the same as the duty levied under the superseded tariff, while the general duty is, in most cases, double this rate.

Specific duties are as follows:—

		Preferential.	*General.*
Malt liquors	per gal.	3s.	6s.
Anchors and chains	per lb.	½d.	1d.
Cards, playing	per pack	1s.	2s.
Cement	per cwt.	8d.	1s. 4d.
Cigarettes	per lb.	6s.	9s.
Cigars	per lb.	7s. 6d.	11s. 3d.
Dynamite, etc.	per lb.	6d.	1s.
Iron, black	per ton	30s.	60s.
Iron, galvanised, and wire rope	per ton	60s.	120s.
Iron, pig or scrap	per ton	20s.	40s.
Petrol, etc., crude and Diesel oils	per gal.	4d.	4d.
Kerosene (by closed flash test)	per gal.	3d. – 6d.	3d. – 6d.
Mineral oils, other, in bulk ...	per gal.	6d.	6d.
Oils, non-mineral, in bulk ...	per gal.	6d.	1s.
Paints and colours	per cwt.	4s.	8s.
Putty	per cwt.	3s.	6s.
Spirits, methylated	per gal.	2s.	4s.
Spirits, other	per gal. (or proof gal. if applicable).	26s.	39s.

Digitized by Google

		Preferential.	*General.*
Tanks, iron	each	10s.	20s.
Timber, dressed	per 100 ft. super.	2s.	4s.
Timber, undressed	per 100 ft. super.	1s. 6d.	3s.
Tobacco, manufactured, in packets or plugs.	per lb.	3s.	4s. 6d.
Tobacco, manufactured, in tins.	per lb.	5s.	7s. 6d.
Tobacco, unmanufactured ...	per lb.	2s.	2s.
Wines, sparkling	per gal.	10s.	15s.
Wines, still	per gal.	4s.	6s.

Duties *ad valorem* are in most cases 12½ per cent. preferential and 25 per cent. general. Watches are at 12½ per cent. whatever the country of origin. Bicycles and motor cycles (and parts thereof), musical instruments and appliances, and perfumery, are at 15 per cent. and 30 per cent. respectively. Jewellery is at 20 per cent. and 40 per cent. respectively. The preferential duty on machinery and parts thereof, and railway material, is 10 per cent., and the general 20 per cent.

The following goods, while exempt from duty if of British origin, are charged at 12½ per cent. if foreign:—Copra sacks; Church materials and furnishings; medical goods for free distribution by missions; cinema films; flour; infants' foods; fruits and vegetables; apparatus for printing religious and educational books; manures; milk; mosquito netting; Rifle club prizes and rifles; rice; sailcloth for canoes; school materials, furnishings and prizes; soap (plain); sugar; surgical instruments; uniforms for boy scouts and girl guides.

The following goods are unconditionally exempt from duty:—Animals and birds; articles by parcel post on which the duty would not exceed 6d.; ships' ballast; coal and coke; coconuts; coin of the realm and currency notes; copra; cylinders for gas or ammonia; flags; guano; Government medals, etc; oysters, living; pictures and photographs, unframed; printed matter; seeds; samples; postage stamps; official uniforms; vaccine lymph and other antitoxins; passengers' baggage—personal effects, used tools of trade, and household effects not exceeding £100 value which have been in use for not less than one year.

The cost of packages is included in the dutiable value of goods.

Excise and Stamp Duties.

There are no excise duties. The only stamp duty is that charged under the provisions of Ordinance No. 14 of 1917, viz.: 2d. on every receipt (other than a receipt issued by or to the Government) for a sum exceeding forty shillings.

Digitized by Google

Hut Tax or Poll Tax.

There is no hut or poll tax. A capitation tax of £10 per caput per annum is levied upon non-natives of the Pacific Islands (with certain exceptions), and an annual tax, payable in copra, is levied upon native landowners.

XVI.—MISSIONS.

There are two missions established in the Colony, the London Missionary Society (Congregationalist) and the Sacred Heart Mission (Roman Catholic).

The headquarters of the London Missionary Society in the Gilbert Islands are at Rongorongo, Beru, where a central training school for native pastors and a printing press are established. A European staff of three ministers and one lay helper assisted by their wives and one other lady carry on the work of the Group. The living and housing conditions maintained at Rongorongo, both for natives and Europeans, reach a high standard of comfort when compared with the average mission station in other parts of the Pacific.

The Ellice Islands come within the sphere of operations of the Samoan Branch of the London Missionary Society. There is no Roman Catholic Mission in the Ellice Group.

The centre of the activities of the Sacred Heart Mission is at the island of Abaiang, where a printing press and a central training school are established. A staff of over 50 priests, sisters, and lay brothers is distributed over the Gilbert Group.

Approximately 43 per cent. of the natives of the Gilbert Group are adherents of the London Missionary Society and 35 per cent. are adherents of the Sacred Heart Mission, the remaining 22 per cent. still retaining their ancient faiths. All the natives of the Ellice Group are adherents of the London Missionary Society.

Ocean Island, where most of the European population of the Colony is concentrated, is usually visited once a year by either the Bishop in Polynesia or a Church of England minister from Australia, who remains in residence for about a month. The European missionary of the London Missionary Society who resides at Nauru also visits Ocean Island once a year and conducts services for Europeans during his stay on the island.

No appointment has yet been made to the vacant bishopric of the Sacred Heart Mission in the Gilbert Islands.

XVII.—LANDS.

The native method of land tenure may be described as a compromise between the communal and individual systems. In theory a landowner has only a life interest in the property, but in practice he is allowed by custom to exercise a reasonable initiative in the alienation of portions of his lands to relatives outside the immediate circle of his next-of-kin.

Digitized by Google

The land-wealth of the natives of the Colony may be said to be the greatest at the extremities of the chain formed by the Gilbert and Ellice Groups. It is mainly in the southern islands of the Gilbert Group that the steady increase of population (which may be attributed in part to the spread of medical attention, and in part to the cessation of internecine warfare) is beginning to reach a stage where land shortage is felt to any great extent. A similar state of affairs is developing in the more northerly Ellice Islands. On one or two of these islands there are signs that the size of the population is approaching the limit which can be supported by the land-area, a problem which will require attention in the fairly near future.

Under existing legislation—the Native Lands Ordinance No. 16 of 1917, and Ordinance No. 1 of 1928 containing amendments thereto—no sale of native lands to non-natives is permitted, and no lease may be granted for a longer period than 99 years, nor for any one parcel of land in any one island of greater extent than five acres, without the approval of the High Commissioner.

A Native Lands Commission was constituted by Ordinance No. 8 of 1922 to determine questions of ownership and to establish new land registers. The Commission adjudicated in disputed rights and questions of ownership, and established new land registers during its sessions on Ocean Island and the islands of Little Makin, Butaritari, Marakei and Abaiang. Some work was also carried out on the southern part of Tarawa, but the lands settlement of the northern part of the island was not completed.

The Lands Commission Department was re-formed in 1934 and, in view of the great divergence of lands customs obtaining in the Gilbert and Ellice Groups, it was decided that two separate Commissions should be constituted. In the Gilbert Islands, an officer was seconded from the District Administration to assume the new duties, while the officer administering the Ellice Islands District was appointed to hear lands cases conjointly with his administrative functions.

The activities of the Lands Commission in the Gilbert Islands were restricted during 1936 to preparatory work performed by its native members. Throughout the year the Lands Commissioner was absent—firstly on leave and later on transfer to the Protectorate of Zanzibar. He has since, however, been re-transferred to the Colony, and the resumption of the Lands Commission is in sight.

In the Ellice Islands, land sittings were held and completed at the islands of Funafuti, Nukufetau and Nanumea.

Digitized by Google

Freehold sale of land between natives is of extreme rarity, while sales to non-natives are now forbidden by law. A European wishing to lease land and to enjoy the produce of its trees would pay an annual rent in the neighbourhood of £2-£3 per acre, though this price varies greatly from island to island and should not be regarded as by any means a ruling estimate of value. Special rates obtain on Ocean Island, where the value of phosphate deposits must be taken into account.

The lands on Fanning, Washington and Christmas Islands are in the hands of companies and are not available for purchase or lease in sub-divided areas.

XVIII.—NATIVE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

The measles epidemic during the year 1936 hit a hard blow at all commerce in the Gilbert and Ellice Groups and, since the epidemic almost exclusively affected the native population, it is not surprising that the year was one of little—if any—progress by the native co-operative societies.

Societies have been established in nearly all islands of the two Groups. The majority were formed either shortly before or actually during the time of greatest depression of the copra market. During that depression certain of them have " gone under." Others have emerged the stronger for the successful overcoming of past difficulties. For these the present period is one of marking time and consolidating their position with a view to future progress. The experience gained by these societies during the past decade, if properly supported by suitable legislation, should result in the emergence of a co-operative movement of real commercial importance to the Colony. Whatever the degree of their commercial success may be, however, the societies undoubtedly confer upon the natives valuable opportunities for rudimentary business training and give them the satisfaction of feeling that they are able to play some part in the trade of the Colony.

XIX.—WEATHER REPORTS AND RAINFALL STATISTICS.

Modern meteorological instruments are installed at Ocean Island and supervised by an officer of the British Phosphate Commissioners, who specialises in this work and transmits daily weather reports to Suva. A meteorological station is also established at Funafuti and recordings are forwarded daily by wireless to Fiji, while monthly meteorological reports are transmitted to the Air Ministry in London and to the Harbour Master at Suva.

Digitized by Google

The following table shows the average rainfall, in inches, in six territorial districts of the Colony during 1936 and during the two preceding years:—

	1934	*1935*	*1936*
Ocean Island	23·44	58·08	83·85
Northern Gilbert Islands (Little Makin, Butaritari, Marakei and Abaiang) ...	72·49	78·62	106·78
Central Gilbert Islands (Tarawa Maiana, Kuria, Aranaka and Abemana)	24·32	40·79	63·99
Southern Gilbert Islands (Nonouti, Tabiteuea, Beru, Nikunau, Onotoa, Tamana and Arorae)	19·61	40·21	62·07
Ellice Islands (Nanumea, Nanumanga, Niutao, Nui, Vaitupu, Nukufetau, Funafuti and Nukulaelae)	85·31	96·54	95·65
Fanning Island	49·92	*	72·14

* Figure not available.

The rainfall during the year was above the average and counterbalanced to a large extent the drought conditions experienced during 1934 and the earlier months of 1935. Westerly gales were experienced during January and February, and also during November and December.

XX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Ocean Island was visited during January by Mr. A. S. Gaye, C.B., O.B.E., the British Phosphate Commissioner for the United Kingdom.

The recently appointed Senior Medical Officer, Dr. F. E. Montague, reached the Colony during March of the year under review.

H.M.S. *Leith*, of the New Zealand Station, visited Funafuti, Nukufetau, Vaitupu, Nui, Ocean Island, Butaritari, Tarawa, Tabiteuea and Onotoa during July. Dr. A. H. B. Pearce, the Central Medical Authority, visited these islands in her.

On account of the measles epidemic which was then widespread throughout the Gilbert Group, the British Phosphate Commissioners—for the first time for several years—recruited labour for Ocean Island from the Ellice Islands. One hundred and ninety recruits were obtained from Nanumea, Niutao and Vaitupu.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX.

Bibliography.

* " Narrative of the United States Expedition, 1838-1842 ", by Charles Wilkes. 5 vols. 1845. (Out of print.)

" Ethnologische Erfahrungen und Belegstucke aus der Sudsee ", Dritte Abtheilung; Mikronesien (West Oceanien), 1893, by D. O. Finsch. (Out of print.)

* " Funafuti, or three months on a Coral Island ", by Mrs. Edgeworth David. 1898. (Out of print.)

" Les Isles Blanches des Mers du Sud ", Histoire du Vicariat Apostolique des Archipels Gilbert et Ellice, by Le Pere Fernand Hartzer. 1900. (Out of print.)

" Hawaii, Ostmikronesien und Samoa ", by Professor Dr. Augustin Kramer. 1906. (Out of print.)

* " Western Pacific—Report on a visit to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, 1909 ", by Arthur Mahaffy. Cd. 4992. London: H.M. Stationery Office, 1910. 1d.

" British Possessions in Oceania ", Handbooks prepared under the direction of the Foreign Office—No. 144. London: H.M. Stationery Office, 1920. 3s. 6d.

* " Health Survey of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, with special reference to Hookworm Infection ", by Dr. S. M. Lambert. Suva Government Printing Office, 1924.

* " Land Travel and Seafaring ", by H. R. McClure. London. Hutchinson and Co., 1925. 18s.

* " Field Notes on the Culture of Vaitupu, Ellice Islands ", Wellington, N.Z., by D. G. Kennedy. The Polynesian Society, 1932. 15s.

* The Pacific Islands Yearbook, 1935. Sydney Pacific Islands Publications, Ltd. 2s. 6d.

* Medical and Sanitary Reports. Published annually. Government Printing Office (or Crown Agents for the Colonies, London).

* Gilbert and Ellice Islands Blue Book. Published annually. Government Printing Office (or Crown Agents for the Colonies, London).

* " In the South Seas ", by Robert Louis Stevenson. Various editions available.

" Ocean Island and Nauru ", by A. F. Ellis, C.M.G., F.R.G.S. Sydney, Angus and Robertson, 1935. 7s. 6d.

† Several of Louis Becke's works contain articles and short stories on islands in the Gilbert and Ellice Groups.

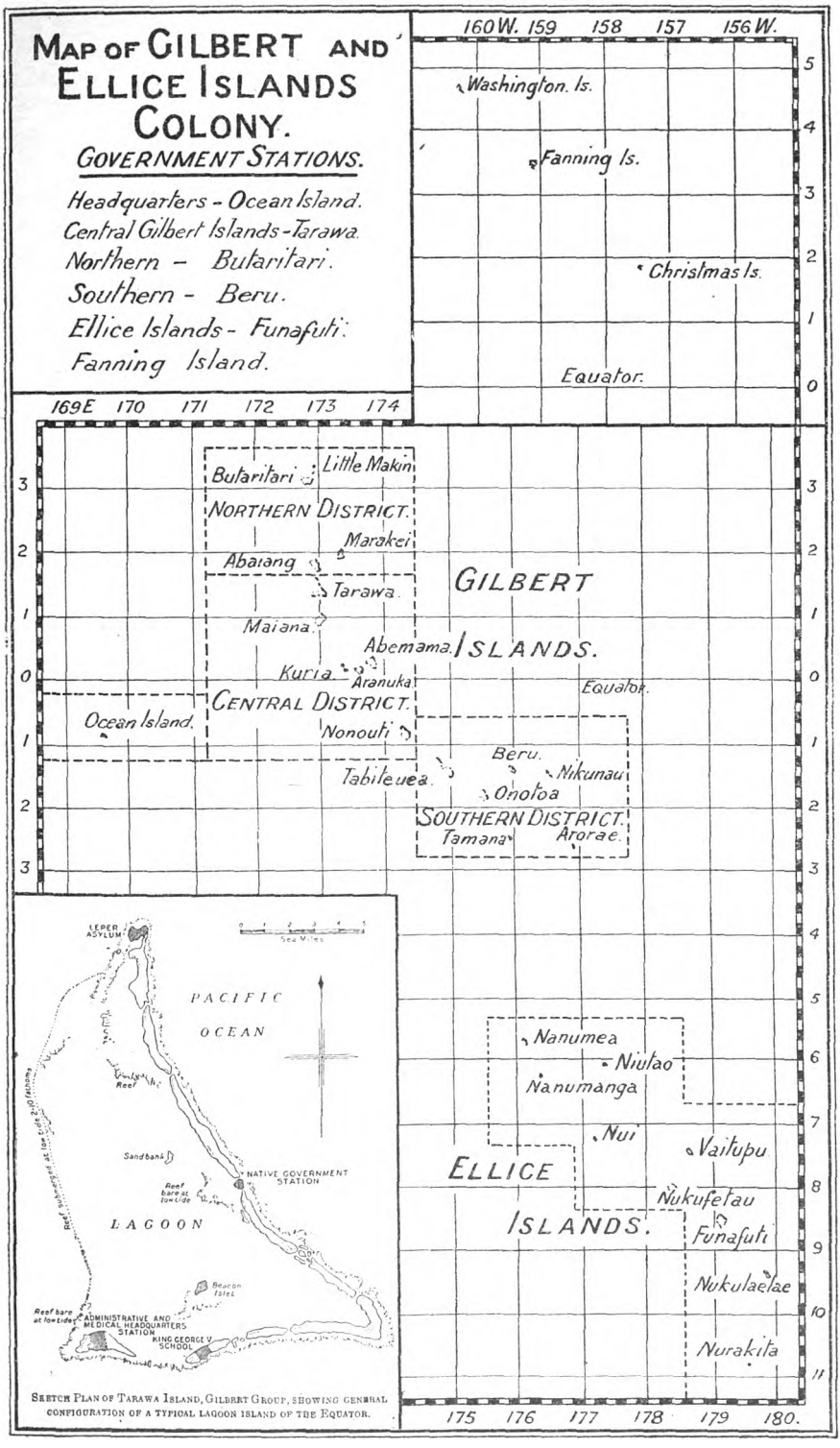
Articles on the ethnology of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands frequently appear in the " Journal of the Polynesian Society ". Wellington, N.Z. The Polynesian Society. Quarterly, £1 per annum.

---

* Copies of these publications may be seen in the Library of the Colonial Office.

† Some of these books may be seen in the Library of the Colonial Office.

Digitized by Google



SKETCH PLAN OF TARAWA ISLAND, GILBERT GROUP, SHOWING GENERAL CONFIGURATION OF A TYPICAL LAGOON ISLAND OF THE EQUATOR.

(46505—48) Wt. 2981—3952 625 1/38 P. St. G. 377/7

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1834

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
.G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1833

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

FIJI, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1719 and 1781 respectively (Price 3s. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 1s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)

Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)

Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)

Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)

Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)

First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)

First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)

First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments

Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St [illegible] BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

[illegible]kseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1833

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

FIJI, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1719 and 1781 respectively (Price 3s. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 1s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF FIJI FOR 1936

CONTENTS

Chapter.		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	6
III.	Population	9
IV.	Health	12
V.	Housing	17
VI.	Production	18
VII.	Commerce	29
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	39
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	43
X.	Communications and Transport	47
XI.	Banking, Currency and Weights and Measures	49
XII.	Public Works	50
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	51
XIV.	Native Affairs	58
XV.	Indian Affairs	60
XVI.	Legislation	62
XVII.	Public Finance and Taxation	63
XVIII.	Miscellaneous	69
Appendix	List of Publications	75
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Colony of Fiji, which is situated in the Southern Pacific Ocean, is composed of a group of some 250 islands, which lie between latitude 15° and 22° south and between longitude 177° west and 175° east. Only about 80 of these islands are inhabited. The largest island is Viti Levu, which covers 4,053 square miles, the next in size being Vanua Levu (2,128 square miles), Taveuni (166 square miles), and Kandavu (165 square miles). The islands of Rotuma, a dependency of Fiji, lie between 12° and 15° south and 175° and 180° east. The total area of the Colony (including the islands of Rotuma) is 7,083

Digitized by Google

Br. Gov. Pubs.
South
7-25-39
15205

square miles, or nearly the size of Wales. Suva, the capital, which is situated on the south-east side of Viti Levu, is distant 1,743 miles from Sydney, New South Wales, and 1,140 miles from Auckland, New Zealand.

The islands of Fiji owe their origin mainly to volcanic upheaval upon an old continental shelf. Fossiliferous sediments, mudstones (locally called " soapstone ") and limestones are extensively found on Viti Levu. The windward islands are mostly excellent examples of coral atolls. There are, however, no active volcanoes in the Colony, although several of the high mountains, as for instance, Nambukelevu, on Kandavu, and the summit of the island of Taveuni, were formidable craters in past times. Hot springs are found in various localities throughout the islands.

The highest altitude reached in Fiji is that of Mount Victoria (4,550 feet), which is situated at the north-eastern extremity of the main mountain system of Viti Levu, the next highest on this island being Mount Pickering (3,550 feet), Muanivatu (4,000 feet), Mount Evans (4,020 feet), and Korombasambasanga (3,960 feet). The highest peak on Vanua Levu rises to 3,437 feet, and on Taveuni to 4,040 feet.

Most of the islands of the Colony are practically surrounded by coral reefs. Between these reefs and the shore lies an extensive, if intricate, system of protected waterways, navigable by the smaller inter-insular trading vessels, with a number of excellent deep-water anchorages.

Climate.

The climate of Fiji is oceanic. The south-east trade-wind blows from May to November and during the remaining months the direction of the wind is variable. Between December and April when hot northerly winds blow from the Equator the temperature may occasionally rise as high as 96° F. and the humidity may reach saturation point. The total average annual rainfall varies in the well defined " wet " and " dry " zones from 60 to 140 in. and the temperature varies from a minimum of 60° F. to a maximum of 96° F.

The highest temperature in the shade at Suva in 1936 was 94° F. on the 24th March, and the lowest 63° F. on the 1st August. In 1936, in the " wet " zone, the mean minimum shade temperature was 72·3° F. and the mean maximum 83·2° F., with a mean humidity of 81·6 per cent. In the " dry " zone the corresponding temperature figures were 69·9° F. and 85·7° F. and the mean humidity considerably less. The capital, Suva, is situated in the " wet " zone. The

Digitized by Google

total rainfall at Suva was 163·62 in. and in Lautoka 62·44 in. The average annual rainfall for Suva is 119·70 in. The rainfall extends over the whole year, but May to October is usually the driest period. Between November and April, the wet season, cyclonic storms occasionally occur.

History.

Abel Jansen Tasman, a Dutch navigator, is generally credited with the discovery of the Fiji Islands in the year 1643, and is certainly the first to leave an authentic record of his discovery. During the course of a voyage of discovery from Batavia, he entered the north-east part of the Fiji Archipelago, crossed the reef-strewn waters of the northern end of Taveuni to Undu Point, and thence sailed out of the Group to the north-west. There are reasons, however, for believing that one or more of the old Spanish navigators were here before him. Tasman's experiences among the reefs in the north of the Archipelago were so unhappy that, after the publication of his journal, navigators appear to have avoided the Group for over 130 years. Captain Cook made a survey of Vatoa, one of the most southerly islands in the Group, and the neighbouring waters in 1774, and Blight, in 1789, sailed through the Group from south-east to north-west. In the same year he made a second voyage through the Group in a different direction and is credited with the discovery of 39 islands, including the principal island of Viti Levu.

Captain Wilson also made important discoveries at a later time, and D'Urville made a fairly comprehensive, though somewhat inaccurate, chart of the islands and a few of the harbours of the Archipelago in his two voyages in 1827 and 1838. Commander Wilkes, who was in charge of the United States Exploring Expedition which visited the Group in 1840, completed a more reliable chart of its islands, reefs, and harbours, and published the results of his investigations a few years later. But, of necessity, there were many hidden dangers in those coral-strewn waters which could only be revealed later by men-of-war visiting the islands for survey purposes, and by traders plying between ports in different islands of the Group. Uncharted shoals are still found, and, where possible, surveyed by one of His Majesty's ships stationed in the Pacific.

The early voyages and discoveries in the Fiji Archipelago are exhaustively dealt with by Professor G. C. Henderson in his recent work "Discoveries of the Fiji Islands." (*See* Appendix.)

Towards the close of the eighteenth century and the beginning of the nineteenth, Fiji began to be visited by vessels from the East Indies, which came in search of sandalwood and bêche-de-mer for the Chinese market.

Digitized by Google

The inhabitants at that time, and indeed for many years afterwards, were regarded as ferocious savages, and in dealing with them traders had to exercise great caution. Several of the crews of these vessels, however, took up their residence on shore, and they may be regarded as having been the first white immigrants.

About the year 1808 there was wrecked on the reef off the island of Nairai the American brig *Eliza,* with 40,000 dollars from the River Plate. The greater part of the crew escaped, but two of them took passage in native canoes which happened at the time to be in the vicinity of the wreck. One landed at Mbau and the other at Verata. The former, a Swede named Charles Savage, acquired great ascendancy in the Kingdom of Mbau, where he taught the natives the use of fire-arms, thus affording them a considerable advantage in inter-tribal warfare. Other foreigners, for a similar reason, soon acquired a welcome in the several states which were then struggling for supremacy. An Irishman, named Connor, attained in Rewa a similar position to that of Savage in Mbau. Savage died in March, 1814, near the island of Vanua Levu, where he carried on a war with the natives for the purpose of procuring a cargo of sandalwood for an English trading vessel, the *Hunter,* of Calcutta. Together with some of his crew he was killed and eaten, his bones being converted into needles and distributed amongst the people as a memento of victory.

The first missionaries to arrive in Fiji came from Tonga in October, 1835. They began their labours, at a time when the political state of Fiji was unknown, at Lakemba in the Lau (or Eastern) Group, which was a vassal state. By their attention to these lesser people they provoked the jealousy of the chiefs of the neighbouring sovereign State of Thakaundrove; so that, later, when the missionaries extended their activities the chiefs continued to oppose the spread of the new doctrine by all means in their power. Similarly, when the missionaries established themselves at Viwa, which lies close to Mbau, and at Rewa, they experienced the same opposition. The whole influence of the Mbauans, who by their prowess in war, were then paramount, was exercised against the work of the mission, and it has been suggested that many atrocities were committed at Mbau to prove to the missionaries operating from Viwa how little Mbau was influenced by the religious change proceeding in other parts of the Group. Finally, in 1854, King Thakombau adopted Christianity, and heathenism was conquered. Cannibalism had for a long time played an important part in the ceremonials of the Fijian people; it was interwoven in the elements of society, and was defeated only after long and hazardous missionary effort.

In 1858 the United States corvette *Vandalia* arrived in Levuka, and the Commander, Captain Sinclair, acting on behalf

Digitized by Google

of his fellow-countrymen already settled in the Colony, preferred claims against Thakombau, as King of Fiji, amounting to 45,000 dollars. Thakombau induced Captain Sinclair to allow him 12 months in which to meet the demand. Interviews in respect of these claims between Thakombau and the British Consul led to an offer of the cession of the islands to Great Britain, on the condition that the American claims were paid by the British Government, for which payment, as a direct equivalent, certain land, "if required," was to be granted in fee simple, besides the general sovereignty of the whole Group. Subsequently, on the 14th December, 1859, the Chiefs of Fiji "acknowledged, ratified and renewed the offer of the cession of Fiji to Great Britain which had been made on the 12th October, 1858." The offer was declined by Her Britannic Majesty's Government in 1862.

About this time, the shortage in the world supplies of cotton caused by the American Civil War led to an influx of Europeans into Fiji for the purpose of cotton cultivation, and in June, 1871, the settlers endeavoured to establish a settled form of government with the principal Mbauan Chief, Thakombau, as King of Fiji. A Constitution was agreed upon and a Parliament was elected, but it was not long before the Parliament and the Government drifted into mutual hostility, and subsequently the Ministry governed without the aid of a Parliament.

In both Australia and England the annexation of Fiji had been urged since 1869, and in August, 1873, the Earl of Kimberley commissioned Commodore Goodenough, commanding the squadron on the Australian Station, and Mr. E. L. Layard, then Her Majesty's Consul at Fiji, to investigate and report on the matter. The Commissioners, on the 21st March, 1874, reported the offer of the sovereignty of the islands made by the Chiefs, with the assent of the Europeans, but on certain terms which were not acceptable, and Sir Hercules Robinson, then Governor of New South Wales, was despatched to Fiji in September, 1874, to negotiate.

The Mission was completely successful, and the sovereignty of the islands was ceded to the Crown by Thakombau, the Chief of Mbau, Maafu, who was the Chief of the Lau Group, and the other principal Chiefs, in a Deed of Cession dated 10th October, 1874. A Charter was shortly afterwards issued by Her Majesty Queen Victoria creating the islands a separate Colony and providing for their government as a Crown Colony.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Constitution of the Government.

The Constitution is regulated by Letters Patent dated 9th February, 1929, as amended by Letters Patent of the 26th November, 1930, 24th March, 1932, 19th July, 1935, and 15th July,

Digitized by Google

1936. The Governor is advised by an Executive Council consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Colonial Treasurer as *ex officio* members, two other official and two nominated unofficial members. Pending determination of the revision of the constitution of the Legislative Council, the Letters Patent were amended in 1935 extending the then existing Council for twelve months from the 29th July, 1935. On the 15th July, 1936, Letters Patent were passed extending the life of the Council to the 31st December, 1936, on which date a further extension to the 14th July, 1937, was made by Proclamation.

The Legislative Council at present consists of the Governor as President, thirteen nominated members, six European elected members, three native members and three Indian elected members. The nominated members must be persons holding public office in the Colony. There is thus an official majority of one.

The European members are elected by male persons of European descent, who are British subjects, who can read, write and speak the English language, and who are possessed of a small property or income qualification. No person drawing a salary from Colonial funds is eligible to be an elector.

The native members are selected by the Governor from a list submitted every three years by the Great Council of Native Chiefs.

The qualifications required of Indian electors are that they must be male British subjects, of Indian descent, of 21 years of age and upwards and able to pass a simple test either in English or in one of the five main Indian languages spoken in the Colony; there is also a small property or income qualification. No person drawing a salary from Colonial funds is eligible to be an elector.

The English Common Law and the Statutes of general application which were in force in England in the year 1875, when the Colony obtained a local legislature, are extended to the Colony as far as local circumstances render such extension suitable, and are subject to modification by Colonial Ordinances. Certain other later Acts of the Imperial Parliament have been applied to the Colony by local Ordinances.

Local Government.

The administration of the towns of Suva and Levuka was transferred, by Ordinance No. 15 of 1935, from elected Councils to Nominated Boards.

Levuka was proclaimed a Township under the Townships Ordinance of 1928 with effect from 1st July, 1935.

Digitized by Google

The Towns Ordinance was passed in December, 1935, and provides for the appointment of a Suva Town Board, to consist of seven official members, two European unofficial members, two Fijian unofficial members, and two Indian unofficial members, all of whom are to be nominated by the Governor.

The Town Board is responsible for the administration of the town of Suva, having jurisdiction over sanitation and public health markets, slaughter houses, traffic regulations, and building construction. The Board levies rates and also collects licence fees from businesses carried on within the town. The electricity supply of Suva is under the management of the Town Board.

The Townships Ordinance of 1928 gives the Government power to declare any area, not being a town constituted under the Municipal Institutions Ordinance of 1909, to be a township. The Ordinance is administered by a Township Board whose chief duty is to exercise control over the sanitary conditions of the township. There are three proclaimed townships in the Colony, Levuka, on the island of Ovalau, Nausori in the district of Rewa, and Namoli in the district of Lautoka.

The Central Board of Health, which is composed of official and unofficial members appointed by the Governor, administers the Public Health Ordinance of 1935, and is empowered to make regulations in regard to the carrying out of the Ordinance. The Colony is divided into urban and rural sanitary districts, in which local authorities, subject to the control of the Central Board of Health, administer the Public Health Ordinance in their respective districts.

In country districts there are Road Boards, under the Chairmanship of District Commissioners, who are responsible for the maintenance of public roads. General control over the work and the expenditure of Road Boards is exercised by the Central Road Board, which consists of official and unofficial members appointed by the Governor.

The sytem of native local administration is referred to later under Chapter XIV, Native Affairs.

Languages.

English is the ordinary official language of the Colony. From the many Fijian dialects that of Mbau has been adopted for use throughout the Colony. Mbauan is understood by all and can be spoken by most Fijians. In Rotuma, a dependency of Fiji, with a population of 2,740, an entirely different language is spoken which contains words found in the languages of all the adjacent island groups, including Japanese. Among the Indians, who number over 85,000, a form of Hindustani, which pays little attention to grammar, is generally used, although

Digitized by Google

Tamil, Telegu, Malayalam and Caranese languages, or dialects, are also spoken. It is probable that in the course of time a form of Hindustani will become the common language of the Indian community in Fiji. The Chinese population of approximately 1,750 speak Cantonese.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of Fiji on the 26th April, 1936, the date of the Census, was as follows:—

Europeans, 4,028; Persons of European and Native descent, 4,574; Fijians, 97,651; Polynesians, 737; Melanesians, 1,616; Micronesians, 126; Indians, 85,002; Rotumans, 2,816, Chinese, 1,751; Japanese, 62; Others, 16; making a total population of 198,379. Of this total, Fijians comprised 49·22 per cent., Indians 42·85 per cent., and Europeans 2·03 per cent.

On the date of the Census the density of population was 28·1 per square mile.

On the 31st December, 1936, the total estimated population was 201,086 and the density of population was estimated at 27·04 persons to the square mile.

The Rotuman population was estimated at 0·38 to the square mile, but as the Rotumans are centred almost wholly in the island of Rotuma, which has an area of 14 square miles only, the actual population was 203·14 to the square mile.

There were 7,634 births registered during the year, which was an increase of 304 on the previous year. The following table shows the rate per thousand of the population for the years 1929 to 1936:—

	1929.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Europeans ...	19·88	16·94	17·20	16·04	16·03	8·82	12·56	15·39
P.E.N.D. ...	35·96	30·30	43·82	38·61	39·88	24·21	42·12	34·44
Fijians ...	31·91	36·43	35·34	34·32	35·10	37·52	36·53	37·80
Rotumans ...	50·75	54·91	46·95	39·47	50·38	36·83	51·54	38·33
Indians ...	34·86	36·02	33·45	38·44	38·67	37·19	37·37	40·15

There were 4,056 deaths registered during the year, which was 965 more than in 1935. The following table shows the death-rate per thousand of the population for the years 1929 to 1936:—

	1929.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Europeans ...	8·46	9·45	9·09	6·79	8·74	6·93	6·89	7·93
P.E.N.D. ...	9·44	14·70	11·03	9·86	9·01	9·15	8·53	11·19
Fijians ...	24·66	31·24	22·22	17·88	17·72	19·78	21·79	28·03
Rotumans ...	48·10	27·03	14·54	19·12	24·99	46·04	26·94	23·56
Indians ...	9·06	12·30	10·19	8·40	11·37	10·15	8·10	12·32

Digitized by Google

The deaths under one year per thousand births were:—Europeans, 31·25; persons of European and Native descent, 62·50; Fijians, 140·51; Indians, 81·23; Rotumans, 146·79; Total, 109·81.

The following table shows the number of marriages registered during the years 1929 to 1936:—

	1929.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Europeans ...	46	33	38	32	27	32	32	31
P.E.N.D. ...	28	21	18	23	40	33	37	32
Fijians ...	973	744	1,085	766	833	778	838	817
Rotumans ...	27	15	29	25	26	16	28	29
Indians ...	879	1,926	954	911	1,071	1,038	921	903

The marriage rates per thousand of the population were:—Europeans, 7·45; persons of European and Native descent, 6·89; Fijians, 8·31; Indians, 10·41; Rotumans, 10·20; Total 9·09.

A return of the population and of the marriages, births, and deaths is appended.

Digitized by Google

RETURN of the POPULATION, and of the MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS.

Class of Population.	Area in square miles.	Whites.		Coloured Population.		Total.	Aliens and Resident Strangers not included in preceding Columns.	Population to the square mile.	Persons employed in			Births.		Marriages.	Deaths.	
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.				Agriculture.	Manufactures and Industrial.	Professional and Commercial.	Number.	Rate per 1,000.		Number.	Rate per 1,000.
Return of Population as ascertained at the Census of 26th April, 1936.																
Europeans—																
Fiji ...	7,421	2,254	1,756	—	—	4,028	—	0·54	253	583	1,182	—	—	—	—	—
Rotuma ...	14	9	9	—	—											
P.E.N.D.—																
Fiji ...	—	—	—	2,297	2,227	4,574	—	0·62	228	666	304	—	—	—	—	—
Rotuma ...	—	—	—	28	22											
Fijians ...	—	—	—	49,869	47,782	97,651	—	13·13	1,783*	1,855*	3,081*	—	—	—	—	—
Indians ...	—	—	—	48,246	36,756	85,002	—	11·43	17,960	2,065	3,024	—	—	—	—	—
†Polynesians	—	—	—	1,024	451	1,475	—	0·20	261	81	96	—	—	—	—	—
Rotumans ...	—	—	—	1,413	1,403	2,816	—	0·38	2	33	128	—	—	—	—	—
Chinese ...	—	—	—	1,476	275	1,751	—	0·24	298	203	538	—	—	—	—	—
Others ...	—	—	—	578	504	1,082	—	0·15	36	91	70	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	7,435	2,263	1,765	104,931	89,420	198,379	—	26·69	20,821	5,577	8,423	—	—	—	—	—
Estimated Population at 31st December, 1936.																
Europeans...	—	2,311	1,848	—	—	4,159	—	0·56	—	—	—	64	15·39	31	33	7·93
P.E.N.D. ...	—	—	—	2,365	2,281	4,646	—	0·62	—	—	—	160	34·44	32	52	11·19
Fijians ...	—	—	—	50,126	48,165	98,291	—	13·22	—	—	—	3,715	37·80	817	2,755	28·03
†Polynesians	—	—	—	1,009	453	1,462	—	0·20	—	—	—	26	17·78	3	45	30·78
Indians ...	—	—	—	49,120	37,658	86,778	—	11·67	—	—	—	3,484	40·15	903	1,069	12·32
Rotumans ...	—	—	—	1,425	1,419	2,844	—	0·38‡	—	—	—	109	38·33	29	67	23·56
Chinese ...	—	—	—	1,504	288	1,792	—	0·24	—	—	—	20	11·16	—	15	8·37
Others ...	—	—	—	590	524	1,114	—	0·15	—	—	—	56	50·27	13	20	17·95
Totals ...	—	2,311	1,848	106,139	90,788	—	—	27·04	—	—	—	7,634	37·96	1,828	4,056	20·17
Grand Total	—	—	—	—	—	201,086	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Figures relate to Fijians living in Magisterial Districts apart from Native Villages.
† " Polynesians " is here used to define immigrants introduced into this Colony under the Polynesian Immigration Ordinance 1888, and their offspring.
‡ Includes Fiji with the Island of Rotuma. The actual population to the square mile in the Island of Rotuma is 203·14.

Digitized by Google

Immigration and Emigration.

Immigration is controlled by the Immigrants Ordinance, 1909, and strict supervision is exercised by the Police to prevent destitute and undesirable immigrants arriving in the Colony.

Emigration of Fijians (including Rotumans) is regulated by the Emigrants Ordinance of 1892.

Under the provisions of the Indian Immigrants (Repatriation) Ordinance of 1930, Indians introduced into the Colony under the provisions of any previous Indian Immigration Ordinance and who were at the time of introduction above the age of 12 years, and children of such immigrants, under certain circumstances, are entitled to repatriation to India.

The following are statistics of emigration and immigration in 1936:—

EMIGRATION—1936.

Class.	*Departures.*	*Population.*	*Percentage.*
Europeans	2,448	4,028	60·77
Indians	513	85,002	·603
Chinese	84	1,751	4·79
Pacific Islanders ...	90	107,520	·083
Others	30	78	38·36

IMMIGRATION—1936.

Class.	*Arrivals.*	*Population.*	*Percentage.*
Europeans	2,526	4,028	62·43
Indians	650	85,002	·764
Chinese	100	1,751	5·71
Pacific Islanders ...	117	107,520	·108
Others	17	78	21·79

The above figures include a number of tourists who stay for short periods.

IV.—HEALTH.

Medical Service.

The Fiji Medical Service consists of sixteen medical officers under the direct control of the Director of Medical Services. A Pathologist has charge of a laboratory which is attached to the Colonial War Memorial Hospital.

Suva, Lautoka and Levuka are first ports of entry for overseas shipping, but the first named is the only port equipped for the fumigation of shipping against rats and mosquitoes. The port health staff at Suva consists of the Medical Officer of Health, two qualified European Inspectors, one Fijian and two Indian, locally qualified, Sanitary Inspectors, one Fijian Sanitary Inspector in training and one rat-catcher. During the year

Digitized by Google

pratique was granted to 147 vessels (registered net tonnage, 796,058) entering the Port of Suva, entailing the medical inspection of 3,785 passengers and 2,662 members of crews. In the town of Suva the Medical Officer of Health acts in an advisory capacity on health matters to the Town Board, which employs one European Sanitary Inspector to look after the sanitation of the town, the inspector is also sewerage engineer.

In the country districts the control of health and sanitation is in the hands of twelve District Medical Officers, sixty-one Native Medical Practitioners and six Indian Medical Practitioners. There are also three European Sanitary Inspectors, one Indian Sanitary Inspector and seven Indian Sanitary Assistants.

A system of hospitals exists throughout the Colony. The Colonial War Memorial Hospital in Suva is a well-equipped building with 142 beds, 31 cots, and 8 beds in lazarette, an operating theatre and an X-ray plant, and caters for all classes of the community. During the year 3,074 persons were admitted, the daily average number of in-patients being 124·83. The Colonial War Memorial Hospital is also a Nurses' Training School. The New Zealand Registration Board accepts the prescribed course of training and grants its nursing diploma to candidates who pass the necessary examination. The medical and nursing staff consists of a Medical Superintendent, an Assistant Medical Superintendent, a Matron, an Assistant Matron, five trained Sisters, thirteen European Probationer Nurses and a Nurse-Housekeeper. In addition there are 21 native nurses in training. The third and fourth year medical students from the Central Medical School complete their medical studies here, by acting as dressers and clinical clerks in the various wards, and receive clinical demonstrations before qualifying. The Medical Superintendent is Director of Clinical Studies.

The Methodist Mission conducts a hospital for Indian women at Mba, and there are cottage hospitals for Europeans at Mba and Taveuni. These hospitals are subsidized by Government, as is also a Maternity Home in Suva. In addition there are fourteen provincial hospitals and some twenty-nine dispensaries in the Colony, where Fijians and Indians may obtain treatment. Fijians are treated free of charge and Indians are required to pay the sum of 1s. for any medicines or dressings provided.

At a cost of approximately £6,000, £3,700 of which was given by the Rockefeller Foundation, a new Pathological Laboratory was erected in Suva during the year. The Pathologist is assisted by a European technician and a staff of natives. The building is of ferro-concrete and is fully equipped to deal with pathological, bacteriological, parasitological and biochemical work. Provision has also been made for veterinary bacteriology and

Digitized by Google

pathology. The majority of vaccines used by the Medical Department are now manufactured in the laboratory. Recently a further donation of £500 has been made by the Rockefeller Foundation towards the purchase of special biochemical apparatus.

The former Fiji Medical School (1888 to 1928) at which only a limited number of Fijian students were trained in the vernacular was, in 1928, replaced by the Central Medical School, which receives native medical students from the various island groups in the South Pacific. The Rockefeller Foundation granted a sum of £8,000 to assist in the cost of erection and equipment of the school buildings.

The teaching staff consists of a whole-time Principal with fourteen honorary lecturers and demonstrators. The students, who are all boarders, include seventeen Fijians, three Indians, five Samoans, four Tongans, five Gilbert and Ellice Islanders, four Solomon Islanders, three Cook Islanders and one each from the New Hebrides and Nauru Island, making a total of forty-three on the 31st December.

The School is under the control of the Central Medical School Advisory Board, with the Director of Medical Services as Chairman, and the Principal of the School is Secretary to the Advisory Board. The syllabus of instruction now covers a period of four years and is divided into three sections: the first section of six months with instruction in chemistry, physics, and biology; the second section of one year for anatomy and physiology; and the third section of two and a half years for medicine, surgery, midwifery, etc. The students are known as junior students in the first two sections, and as senior students in the third and final section.

After graduating, the medical students receive diplomas as Native Medical Practitioners, and they are then given appointments in country districts, or are attached to a hospital under a European Medical Officer. A subordinate medical service in Fiji has thus been created consisting of sixty-two native medical practitioners and seven Indian medical practitioners. In addition, the Central Medical School has already turned out thirty similarly qualified native medical practitioners who are in actual practice in other island groups, including Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, New Hebrides and the British Solomon Islands.

The Child Welfare Scheme, which is under the control of a Central Executive Committee, has been firmly established in the Colony since 1927. In practically every village Child Welfare Committees have been established, each of which is responsible to the Child Welfare Worker in charge of the district. There are four trained European Nurses engaged in the work in various parts of Fiji, assisted by fourteen specially trained Native

Digitized by Google

Nurses. District Medical Officers and Native Medical Practitioners make inspections and co-operate with the Child Welfare Workers. Native Medical Practitioners are given special training in Child Welfare in order to be able to render this service to their own people in the country districts.

Infant mortality among Fijian children under the age of five years during the years 1933, 1934, 1935 and 1936 is as follows:—

	1933.	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Under one month	88	99	99	98
Over one month, under one year ...	244	368	462	424
Over one year, under five years ...	174	290	358	514

The increase in infant death-rate is largely due to epidemics of whooping cough, dysentery and measles.

Health and Sanitation.

Dysentery was prevalent throughout the year, with a slight decrease during the cool weather, it then showed an increase on the north coast of Viti Levu and in the Rewa delta. Measles in a mild form was epidemic throughout the Colony during the year.

Infectious Diseases.

Dysentery.—During the first and second quarters, 400 and 492 cases respectively were notified, and in the third and fourth quarters, 337 and 516 respectively. The cases were chiefly of the Shiga variety. Clinically the type was less severe than that experienced in the epidemic of 1929-30, the general mortality rate being 8 per cent. A total of 1,745, including 41 amoebic, cases were notified for the year. From specimens submitted to the Bacteriological Laboratory from cases occurring in the Suva district, the following results were obtained:—

Shiga	34
Schmitz	12
Flexner	22
Sonne	5
Negative	12

Diphtheria.—Clinical diphtheria is not common. Twenty-one cases of sore throat, usually mild in degree, were reported for the Colony, with the presence of the Klebs-Loeffler bacillus in more or less pure culture.

(*Epidemic*) *Dropsy.*—Only one case was notified as occurring during 1936 in contrast with 15 cases the previous year. The patient was an Indian resident in the Tavua district.

Typhoid.—180 cases were reported for the Colony as compared with 109 in 1935 and 58 in 1934: these included 38 cases for the Suva area. All cases bacteriologically positive proved to be typhosus infections and no endogenous case of a paratyphoid infection came to light.

Digitized by Google

Leprosy.—On the island of Makongai there is a modern leper hospital, with a staff consisting of a Medical Superintendent, and 15 European and 10 Fijian Roman Catholic Sisters. Cases of leprosy reported in the Colony, irrespective of race, are compulsorily segregated in this hospital, and lepers are also received from New Zealand, Samoa, Tonga and the Cook and Gilbert and Ellice Islands. The cost of the institution is borne by the various participating Administrations proportionately to the number of their patients. The hospital proper is divided into two compounds, one of which is reserved for female patients, while in the other are hospital wards for male patients who are acutely sick or unable to look after themselves. There are also five different villages for patients of the various races whom it is unnecessary to detain in hospital. These villages are visited daily by Nursing Sisters.

Admissions during 1936	60
Repatriation of Indians	6
Conditional discharges	20
Deaths	54
Number of patients at the end of 1936 ...	555

Since 1911 there have been 2,004 admissions, 363 conditional discharges, 62 re-admissions (many of which have been on account of trophic ulceration rather than for reactivation of the disease) and 16 cases have been re-discharged.

Miscellaneous.

Drinking water.—Suva town and a portion of its rural area has a piped supply, whose intake is in the hills with no human habitation in the vicinity. It is tested at regular intervals. In other parts the usual sources of rural supplies are tapped.

Food control and dairies.—Twenty-seven dairies were registered during the year within the rural district of Suva. Detailed surveys were made of all dairy premises in the sanitary district, and 122 notices were served to carry out improvements.

Milk.—The milk supply is sampled by inspectors of the Central Board of Health. Two summonses, one for selling milk from unregistered premises and one for permitting untested cattle to remain in a dairy herd resulted in convictions with total fines imposed, £31.

Tuberculin testing of cattle.—Of 779 cattle in registered dairy herds in the Suva district tuberculin tested by Government Veterinary Officers, only seven or 0·898 per cent. gave positive reactions. In total herds of 1,508 cattle tuberculin tested, 85 (5·63 per cent.) gave positive reactions.

Slaughter-houses.—In the Suva district two slaughter-houses were registered during the year, which were visited regularly. Of 4,653 carcases inspected, 107 (2·3 per cent. including 80

Digitized by Google

ruminants (2·4 per cent. of total ruminants), and 19 porcines (1·8 per cent. of total porcines), were condemned as unfit for human consumption, generalised tuberculosis being the chief cause of condemnation; in addition 1,836 organs, etc., were condemned for various reasons.

There were no legal proceedings in connection with slaughter-houses during the year.

Sanitation Campaign.

The Soil Sanitation Campaign, for the installation of latrines fitted with cement tops, was continued during the year. The work has been carried out, chiefly amongst the native towns in the provinces of Tailevu and Naitasiri, and in the Indian settlements of Lambasa on the Island of Vanua Levu. Re-surveys were made of some of the districts completed prior to 1936, and latrines renewed where necessary. During the year 1,996 new latrines were completed and 1,853 cement tops supplied.

The total number of this type of latrine installed in the Colony up to the 31st December, 1936, is 17,760.

V.—HOUSING.

In the urban district of Suva the Town Board is the Local Authority, the Medical Officer of Health being a member and chairman of its Health Committee.

The sanitary duties are carried out under the supervision of the Board's Sanitary Inspector, the control of infectious diseases being the responsibility of the Medical Officer of Health as executive officer of the Central Board of Health.

Town-planning and Building Regulations.—The business part of the town of Suva is changing from a collection of temporary premises erected without much attention to future requirements. Permanent buildings in concrete are springing up at the more important sites and this calls for careful town-planning and adequate building regulations if expensive mistakes are to be avoided. The laying down of improved and wider roads has done much to improve the appearance of parts of the business area.

The European settlements at Vatuwangga and Lami are proving popular and their boundaries are extending.

Roads.

The new transinsular road and the opening of the Suva-Singatoka section, expected in 1938, will provide a circular road around Viti Levu and should prove a distinct asset to the health of the community, providing as it does ready access to the higher and cooler parts of the island.

Digitized by Google

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Sugar.

The production of sugar, the principal industry of the Colony, is conducted by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited, which operates five mills, purchases all the cane produced and disposes of the sugar and by-products. The production of sugar cane is mainly in the hands of East Indians who farm small holdings under lease from and under the supervision of the Company, but the remunerative returns obtained tend to attract increasing numbers of Fijians to this crop. It is reported that some 1,131 Fijians were employed in the cultivation of sugar cane in 1936 compared with 833 for the previous year.

The Company maintains a trained staff for the direction of pest control and research and new varieties of cane are introduced for trial from time to time.

The areas cultivated and the production of cane for the past three cropping seasons have been:—

	Area. *Acres.*	*Production.* *Tons.*
1933–4	44,712	868,438
1934–5	42,899	815,139
1935–6	46,426	1,016,704

The Company has under consideration the establishment of a training farm for Fijian youths with the object that they may, while still receptive, acquire a practical training in agriculture.

Copra.

The production of copra stands second to sugar in the industrial life of the Colony. Market values which reached the very low average level of £4 2s. 6d. per ton in Suva in 1934, appreciated to £7 6s. 6d. in 1935 and to £9 5s. 4d. in 1936.

Two-thirds of the production is in the hands of Fijians who utilize their hereditary lands, large areas of which are self-sown, for production of copra. In the main the methods of drying are primitive with the result that poor quality copra is produced. In an endeavour to improve the grade of Native-produced copra the Government has encouraged the erection of a small cheap type of hot air drier and considerable progress in this direction has been made during the year under review.

The larger European-owned estates have experienced difficulty during the past few years in securing adequate supplies of labour and, in view of the paucity of population and the demands made on the labour market by the gold mining industry, the future is certain to become increasingly difficult for such estates.

Digitized by Google

A number of minor outbreaks of disease were reported during the year. In all cases parasites were found to be present.

Exports and values of copra for the past three years have been:—

	Tons.	*Value.*
		£
1934	23,526	127,941
1935	26,081	220,478
1936	34,581	406,393

Bananas.

The Dominion of New Zealand continues to be almost the sole market for Fijian bananas. The Commonwealth of Australia provided a large market for this fruit until the year 1921, when the imposition of a tariff charge of 8s. 4d. per cental, in the interests of the Australian industry, caused the total loss of this market to Fiji. Under the terms of the Ottawa agreement the Australian Government agreed to the importation of 40,000 centals of Fijian bananas at a reduced tariff charge of 2s. 6d. per cental. The large Australian production which gluts the market and high taxation and exchange which exporters are required to bear render the market unprofitable except for small quantities at times when the local fruit is in short supply.

Until the disastrous fall in copra values during the depression Fiji was almost the sole supplier of bananas to New Zealand. The depression in the copra industry necessitated the extension of agricultural activities by other South Pacific Administrations, and Fiji soon became faced with strong competition especially from the Mandated Territory of Samoa. The volume of exports of bananas to New Zealand in 1932 was so great in relation to the demands of the market that profitable trading became impossible and a restriction scheme agreed upon by all the supplying territories and the New Zealand Government was adopted. This scheme, known as the quota system, has operated since August, 1932, and has provided much needed stability to the industry.

The shipment of bananas to Vancouver, Canada, which was commenced in 1934, was continued throughout the year under review. The development of this trade is restricted to the limited cool storage accommodation which is made available in the Canadian-Australian Royal Mail Line steamers.

The Fijians continue to be the principal producers of bananas, some 90·2 per cent. of the exports being supplied from areas cultivated by natives compared with 85·4 per cent. in 1935 and 79 per cent. in 1934.

The interests of both producers and exporters are protected under the provisions of the Fruit Export Ordinance, 1906, and comprehensive regulations made thereunder. The prices paid

Digitized by Google

to growers are fixed from time to time by a Board representative of both growers and buyers. The prices fixed are based on realizations in the markets abroad and endeavours are made to avoid violent fluctuations which are not understood by the Natives. The average price paid for native grown fruit was approximately 3s. 4d. per case compared with 3s. 2d. per case for 1935 and 3s. per case for 1934.

Exports for 1936 were as follows:—

	Cases.	*Bunches.*	*Total. Equivalent in Cases.*
To New Zealand ...	157,831	356	158,009
,, Canada	60	18,834	9,477
,, Australia	1,136	714	1,493
Total ...	159,027	19,904	168,979

Citrus.

The production of citrus fruits in Fiji is from self-sown trees in and about Fijian towns, consequently there are wide variations in quality, especially in the oranges. The production and distribution of good quality budded stock from the Nasinu Citrus Research Station is proceeding and it is proposed that when this material reaches production the existing sources of supply should be destroyed.

The Fijian mandarins are of excellent quality and form the bulk of the small citrus exports of the Colony.

The export of citrus fruits is handled by a voluntary association of the shippers in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture which undertakes the grading and packing of the fruit.

Exports during 1936 amounted to 869 cases of oranges and 3,224 cases of mandarins.

Rice.

Rice is the staple diet of the Indians who constitute nearly half the total population of the Colony, but large continuous areas of rice, such as are found in most rice producing countries, hardly exist, most of the plantings being in isolated plots of a few acres and entirely dependent on a very variable rainfall. There are, however, a few areas of a couple of hundred acres.

The past two rice seasons have been very adverse. Owing to the unsuitable incidence of rainfall, planting was seriously retarded, drought in some areas and very heavy rains in other areas were detrimental to the young plantings and crops were in consequence heavily decimated and in some cases not deemed worth harvesting. In some important areas crops only averaged

Digitized by Google

25 per cent. of the normal. Rats and pigs did considerable damage in certain areas and elsewhere grasses and other weeds were prevalent.

In consequence of the two unfavourable seasons in succession the annual imports of rice for 1936 (3,258 tons) were greatly in excess of the normal of the past five years and the cost of local and of imported rice varied between £17 and £20 per ton throughout the year.

With the purpose of encouraging local rice production the import tariff was continued throughout the year. This tariff is variable and is directed at maintaining the cost of imported rice at a minimum of £15 per ton.

The present season which commenced in October and November is promising well and it is estimated that the area under cultivation will exceed all previous plantings. With the improvement of transport facilities some new areas are being brought under rice cultivation and such areas are being encouraged by the erection of small rice mills, but there is great scope for additional areas of rice.

The importation of rice during 1936 amounted to 3,258 tons.

Tobacco.

A considerable quantity of tobacco is grown in small areas, principally by Indians, but there is as yet practically no production on commercial lines. Experiments which have been in progress at an experimental station indicate that with proper cultural methods, and with attention to harvesting and curing a good tobacco of cigar filler type can be grown and officers of the Department of Agriculture have given instruction in these matters during the year. The Department of Agriculture purchased a quantity of leaf from which was manufactured "stick" tobacco for sale to labourers and satisfactory local sales have been made. Some thousands of cigars made at the Singatoka Experimental Station found ready sales locally.

Pineapples.

Owing to strong Australian competition in the New Zealand market the export of fresh pineapples was negligible.

The canning of pineapple juice and "crush" was carried on in a small way at Ovalau during the year and it is understood that the undertaking could not meet the requirements of the market. Exports of juice and "crush" amounted to 43,071 lb. in 1936.

The Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited has decided to commence pineapple canning operations and large scale nurseries have already been planted. As the Colony is capable of producing choice quality fruit the outlook for this industry is encouraging.

Digitized by Google

Cotton.

Vigorous efforts to stimulate the production of cotton were rendered abortive by unseasonable weather conditions. Drought conditions immediately prior to cropping were so severe that the crops died back and bolls were shed, a most unusual happening in Fiji as abnormally dry seasons in the past have been satisfactory for cotton.

Sea Island cotton was planted in the northern districts of Viti Levu and a locally bred Backcross in the western districts.

The Sea Island crop averaged a production of 236 lb. of seed cotton per acre, the total yield being 11,400 lb. lint, corresponding figures for the Backcross type being 435 lb. of seed cotton and 13,986 lb. of lint.

Lint quality was well maintained for both varieties although the Backcross is still showing some irregularities.

Breeding and selection work and spacing trials were continued at the Singatoka Experiment Station, special attention being given to the maintenance of purity and grade of the Sea Island and the improvement and stabilization of the lint characters of the Backcross together with an increase in the yielding capacity.

Subsidiary Crops for Export.

New Zealand is at present the only market for subsidiary crops with the exception of whole coconuts, Mauritius bean (Stizolobium atterimum), tomatoes and tobacco which find markets elsewhere. The Dominion demand is small and it is unlikely that the export trade in the products referred to below will be capable of considerable expansion unless additional markets can be found.

Kumalas (*Sweet Potatoes*).—Kumalas for export are grown principally by Chinese market gardeners situated close to Suva, but Fijians further afield are becoming interested in this crop. Close examination of exports are necessary as kumalas are attacked by a weevil, the presence of which in consignments is followed by condemnation by the Plant Health Authorities in New Zealand. A total of 8,647 sacks was disposed of in the New Zealand market in 1936. Profitable export trading is restricted to the months of August-December, when the market is bare of home-grown kumalas. Large quantities are produced by Fijians and others for local consumption.

Pawpaws, granadillas and taro.—These are comparatively new items in the list of minor products exported. Pawpaws and granadillas of the finest quality are produced without difficulty in the Colony and the local consumption, especially of the former, assumes considerable proportions. The development of a profitable export trade in these products is attended with difficulty as the demand is as yet small, and in the case of the

Digitized by Google

former, heavy losses in the material occur during transport to the market. Granadillas suffer from the attacks of fruit flies and as isolation in fly-proof chambers after cutting is impracticable owing to the rapid deterioration of the fruit, all granadillas intended for export are required to be bagged on the vines for at least two weeks prior to export. Taro (Colocasia antiquorum) is one of the staple foods of the Fijians, practically every householder cultivating a small area for use of himself and his family. It is only during the year under review that small shipments were made to New Zealand and, while remunerative prices were received for small consignments, experience showed that values receded considerably in an over-supplied market. A stronger demand should become apparent when the vegetable has become better known.

Cucumbers, Melons and Pumpkins.—These products are produced in excellent quality and find profitable markets in New Zealand during the seasons. Chinese market gardeners situated near Suva are the principal producers.

Tomatoes.—A comparatively large trade was formerly done with Australia in tomatoes but declining prices in recent years have reduced the exports considerably—over 11,000 boxes of tomatoes were exported in 1931.

Coconuts.—Small exports to Australia, New Zealand, and Canada were made during the year, but the margin of profit is too small to prove attractive.

Mauritius Beans.—This legume is largely used as a cover crop in the sugar industry and, formerly, substantial exports of seed were made to Queensland for the same purpose. The use of other leguminous plants and a diversion of the trade from Fiji to New Guinea has curtailed export in recent years. All shipments are subjected to germination tests prior to export, a 60 per cent. germination being required to comply with the Fruit Export Ordinance. Exports during the year amounted to 596 cwt.

Products consumed locally.

Maize.—Formerly the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, purchased large quantities of maize under contracts with Indian growers but, with the development of tenant farming in the sugar industry, the demand for maize diminished considerably and growers now experience difficulty in disposing of their crops during the season. There is still, however, a considerable demand for maize, but the lack of organization, inevitable under existing conditions under which a large number of Indian and Fijian small producers market their crops independently, has tended to restrict demands owing to the uncertainty of supplies and the wide fluctuations in price during portions of the year. The steps taken by the Government to

Digitized by Google

provide an organization for storage and sale of this and other products at stable prices is referred to in the section of this report dealing with marketing.

An uncertain market for maize exists in New Zealand, but it will be necessary to perfect an organization for drying and holding the grain free from insect attacks before any advantage can be taken of the spasmodic demands of the Dominion.

The use of maize flour in the place of sharps is also receiving attention.

Potatoes.—Excellent quality potatoes are produced in a number of areas, especially on the Singatoka River, but the necessity for procuring fresh seed from abroad annually is an item of considerable expense which tends to limit production. That there is room for considerable expansion of production is evidenced by the fact that 1,480 tons of potatoes valued at £9,926 were imported during the year.

Kava (*Piper Methysticum*).—The ground root of this plant mixed with water is used as a beverage throughout the South Seas and large quantities are produced for consumption within the Colony. During recent years Indians and Chinese have planted large areas but attacks of a disease have caused severe losses in the areas near to Suva. Formerly, the use of this beverage was restricted to native chiefs but it is now consumed by practically all the Fijians and a large number of Indians.

Indian foodstuffs.—Rice, beans, peas, lentils, maize, bringall, gourd, chillies, coriander, tamarind, tumeric, ground nuts, mango, gauva, melons, potatoes, eschalots, as well as many other foodstuffs of lesser importance, are all grown in Fiji by the Indians. Large quantities are, however, imported more particularly the spices for curry powder. It is hoped to encourage the Indians to grow and prepare more of these commodities themselves.

It is noticeable that the Indian population is tending to include more and more of the Fijians' foodstuffs in their diet; similarly the Fijian is developing a taste for Indian curry foods and rice.

European vegetables, e.g., cabbage, peas, beans, lettuce, tomatoes, leeks, carrots, parsnips, radish, pumpkins, marrow, will, with care, grow well in all parts of the Colony. The production for sale is almost exclusively in the hands of Chinese.

Marketing.

The cultivators of sugar-cane have a permanent market for their crops at a fixed price provided that their areas are approved by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited as suitable for cane cultivation and for economical transportation to a mill. Copra has not such a stable value as sugar-cane but, provided that quality is satisfactory, the producer is able to dispose of

Digitized by Google

his production within his district. Merchants conduct branch stores throughout the Group at which the purchase of copra forms a regular part of the business and there are a number of small Chinese businesses throughout the copra districts which purchase or exchange for goods the production of the plantations in the form of dried copra, green copra or whole coconuts. The cultivation of bananas is restricted to certain districts in which an organization, under Government supervision, arranges for the purchase of the fruit at prescribed centres. Cotton is purchased by the Government at fixed prices at centres near the ginneries.

Hitherto, there has been no organization for the marketing of minor products for which there is a demand locally and abroad with the result that the production of many crops suitable for small holders has been neglected.

The merchant houses and small storekeepers who provide the means of disposal for copra are not interested to any extent in products such as native vegetables, maize, Mauritius beans, tobacco, kumalas, and padi with the consequence that those Fijians and Indians who are remote from centres of European settlement experience considerable difficulty and incur heavy expenditure in disposal of such products. The disposal of small quantities of produce by a large number of individuals acting independently of each other undoubtedly increases the costs of marketing with the consequence that profits are low, production is restricted and the local demand is reduced by the high prices rendered necessary by inordinately high costs of disposal. Exports are affected also in that the products cannot be sold in competition with those of other tropical countries.

Such a form of marketing has the added disadvantage of irregularity of supply which tends further to reduce local consumption.

The provision of an organization for the marketing of small quantities of produce from widely scattered areas is a matter of some difficulty, but Government has under consideration the creation of some such organization.

There are many minor products which can be produced in abundance in the Colony and for which a considerable local sale should be possible provided that prices are reasonable and it is hoped that it will be possible to provide some form of organization which will, in time, provide the means of bridging the gap between the producer and the consumer.

Live Stock.

Although live stock and products derived therefrom are not prominent in the lists of exports of the Colony, domestic animals play an important part in the life of the community. The

Digitized by Google

Colony is essentially agricultural and, since the introduction of the tenant farmer system in cane cultivation, practically all cultivation is done by means of oxen or horse traction. In addition a large proportion of the diet of the Indian population is derived from cows and consumed as milk or ghee. Among these people also there is a considerable interchange of goods by barter. The medium is usually cattle or goats.

On coconut plantations, cattle are kept to provide food for Fijian labour and to keep down undergrowth.

The country is self-supporting in beef and goat meat and almost so as regards pork supplies. Most of the mutton consumed is imported, since Fiji has not as yet been found suitable for the raising of sheep. Sheep imported for slaughter in 1936 numbered 1,556, whilst 175 pigs were imported for this purpose.

No census of stock was taken during 1936 so that it is only possible to repeat the figures published for 1935, i.e., horses approximately 14,000, cattle 70,000, and goats 20,000.

Dairying.

The dairy industry has prospered since its inception about 1919. Each year until 1935 an increased output of butter was recorded. In 1936 there was a slight fall due to slightly unfavourable seasonal conditions.

The following figures indicate the production of the two factories now operating, with comparisons for five years:—

Year.	*Butter manufactured.*	*Sold locally.*	*Exported.*	*Converted into Ghee.*
	lb.	*lb.*	*lb.*	*lb.*
1932	543,815	272,663	271,152	—
1933	544,375	388,631	205,744	17,920
1934	560,649	268,383	146,384	145,882
1935	608,201	347,513	27,736	232,952
1936	533,280	362,791	—	190,489

It will be seen that local sales of butter remain fairly constant. Exports have fallen to nil whilst the conversion of butter into ghee has increased from nil to the figure shown. Before 1934 large quantities of ghee or ghee substitutes were imported and much money left the Colony for this purpose. In 1936 it became apparent that the practice of converting surplus butter into ghee for local consumption was sound. It will not be possible, however, to extend the dairying industry much further and still to find a profitable local market for its products.

In addition to the products of the factories much ghee and some butter is produced domestically. Most of this is disposed of among peasant farmers by small traders, but there are no means of recording the quantities.

Digitized by Google

The milk supply of Suva and other areas with concentrated populations is abundant and good. It is retailed at from 2d. to 3d. per pint. A compulsory tuberculin test is applied to all registered dairies in the Suva district and a few registered dairy herds outside this area are voluntarily subjected to the test.

Pasteurized milk in bottles is supplied by one Company from non-tuberculin tested cattle. The milk supply of most Government schools is from tubercular-free cows. The dairy herds of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited are now almost free of this disease. Indeed no evidence has been produced to show that the milk supply of Suva is in any way inferior to that existing in non-tropical lands.

Poultry.

Fiji is almost, though not quite, self-supporting in egg supply. The extension of road communication is already making the marketing of country produce easier and the egg shortage in the off season of 1936 was not so acute as in former years.

The Department of Agriculture imported a small flock of the Australorp breed during 1936 as a nucleus of a flock with which it is hoped materially to improve local strains. The price of eggs varies from 1s. 3d. to 2s. 3d. per dozen wholesale. Table fowls vary from 3s. 6d. to 5s., and ducks from 5s. to 6s. per bird.

Agricultural instruction to Fijians and Indians.

This phase of agricultural education is controlled by the Agricultural Advisory Committee, which consists of the heads of the Agricultural, Education, Native and Indian Departments and a representative of the Methodist Mission. For the purpose of this description it may be divided into two main spheres, namely primary instruction and adult instruction.

Primary Instruction.

The work under this heading may be briefly described as the operation of the agricultural bias which it is intended to give to certain portions of the curriculum of existing schools. This training is more or less confined to nature study lessons and work in school gardens. This course is pursued not only at the primary schools, but also at the more advanced Queen Victoria School and the Teachers' Training College. The Methodist Mission Agricultural School at Navuso goes a step further in specializing in agriculture, and at the Government Experimental Stations further still in the training of students. It is from the last-named institutions that recruits are selected for employment as Native Field Instructors of the Agricultural Department for work mainly amongst the adult population.

Digitized by Google

Adult Instruction.

As an organized scheme this has been practically confined to the Fijian section of the population, but advice has been freely given to Indians who seek assistance. The Indian agricultural community is far ahead of the Fijian in modern agricultural practice. The majority of the Indians are engaged in the cultivation of sugar-cane and since the adoption of the tenant farmer system by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited, the individual comes under the direct supervision of the trained officers of that Company. In these circumstances Government's restricted financial resources have been directed towards the progress of the more backward Fijian. Efforts are in operation to settle Fijians on the land in small communal settlements in selected areas where they can be supervised and assisted with the marketing of their produce. While considerable progress has been made in this direction, the difficulties are great, owing to the roving disposition of the Fijian, his ease of livelihood, and the smallness of the population.

Mining.

Active prospecting operations were continued during the first half of the year, but fell away with the withdrawal in the second half-year of several Australian companies which had failed to locate payable deposits of ore. Forty-six prospecting licences, aggregating 87,564 acres, were issued during the year, 13 being in the Tavua mining area, 11 in the Yanawai mining area and 22 elsewhere in the Colony. Seventy-two licences lapsed or were surrendered during the year. A total of 25,226 feet of diamond drilling in the Tavua and Yanawai mining areas were performed during the year. A calcareous deposit at Tailevu was examined by the Inspector of Mines in December and reported by him to be a white marble of possible commercial value. It was proposed, as a result of this report, to obtain bulk samples for testing.

The Emperor mine at Tavua treated 25,179 tons of ore during the year for a return of 12,931 oz. of fine gold and 911 oz. of silver. An additional plant capable of treating 10,000 tons of ore per month is being installed and is expected to commence operations about September, 1937. Upwards of 80 new buildings were erected on the mining lease during the year, including residences and barracks for mine officers and employees and a large social hall. The average number of persons employed on the mine during the year was 563.

Loloma (Fiji) Gold Mines, N.L., continued a vigorous ore development policy and commenced the erection of a milling plant capable of treating 500 tons of ore per week. It is anticipated that production will commence about July, 1937. The Public Works Department constructed a metalled road, at

Digitized by Google

the expense of the company, giving access to the Tavua-Emperor Mine road. A new general office and many residences and barracks were erected. The average number of men employed on the mine during the year was 300.

Mount Kasi Mines, Limited, at Yanawai, treated 14,137 tons of ore during the year for a return of 4,024 oz. of fine gold and 273 oz. of silver. Additions were made to the mill buildings and milling plant and several new residences and other buildings were erected. The average number of men employed during the year was 195.

The estimated number of persons of all races employed in mining and prospecting at the end of 1936 was 2,515.

The following statement shows the amounts of fine gold produced in the Yanawai and Tavua Mining Areas since the commencement of mining operations:—

Year.	*Yanawai.*	*Tavua.*	*Total.*
	oz.	*oz.*	*oz.*
1932	311·1	—	311·1
1933	1,844·2	—	1,844·2
1934	796·7	134·7	931·4
1935	1,786·9	4,940·8	6,727·7
1936	4,024·2	12,930·9	16,955·2
Totals ...	8,763·1	18,006·4	26,769·6

VII.—COMMERCE.

Owing to the continued development of the mining industry, a heavy sugar crop, and increased values for copra, trade returns for 1936 showed a considerable advance over the 1935 figures.

The total trade of the Colony for 1936 showed an increase of 18·18 per cent. over 1935 figures, the increases for imports and exports being 19·45 per cent. and 17·31 per cent. respectively. Imports in 1936 valued at £1,501,854 have only been exceeded on two previous occasions, namely in 1920 and in 1921 when the values were £1,673,121 and £1,509,732 respectively. Exports valued at £2,135,427 are the highest recorded since 1928.

Values of Imports, Exports, total trade and visible trade balance for each of the past five years were:—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*	*Excess of Exports over Imports.*
1932 ...	857,346	1,698,964	2,556,310	841,618
1933 ...	1,069,266	1,725,529	2,794,795	656,263
1934 ...	995,204	1,456,455	2,451,659	461,251
1935 ...	1,257,287	1,820,396	3,077,683	563,109
1936 ...	1,501,854	2,135,427	3,637,281	633,573

Digitized by Google

In 1936 the total trade of the Colony was divided between the different countries as follows:—

Country.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total trade.*	*Percentage of total trade.*
United Kingdom	526,690	842,874	1,369,564	37·65
Australia	420,989	241,564	662,553	18·22
Canada	81,777	546,811	628,588	17·28
India	91,997	420	92,417	2·54
New Zealand	59,633	123,600	183,233	5·04
Dutch East Indies	34,420	9,193	43,613	1·20
Japan	50,109	5,436	55,545	1·53
United States	91,065	89,279	180,344	4·96
Other British Possessions...	71,113	17,455	88,568	2·43
Other Foreign Countries ...	44,885	254,015	298,900	8·21
	1,472,678	2,130,647	3,603,325	99·06
Ships' Stores	—	4,780	4,780	·14
Parcels Post	29,176	—	29,176	·80
Totals ... £	1,501,854	2,135,427	3,637,281	100·00

The following table shows how the trade was distributed during the past two years:—

Country.	*Percentage of imports.*		*Percentage of exports.*		*Percentage of total trade.*	
	1935.	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
United Kingdom...	39·45	35·07	49·27	39·47	45·26	37·65
Other British Possessions.	42·33	48·31	39·06	43·55	40·39	45·51
Foreign Countries	16·26	14·68	10·71	16·76	12·98	15·90
Parcels Post ...	1·96	1·94	—	—	·80	·80
Ships' Stores ...	—	—	·96	·22	·57	·14
	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

Imports.

The value of imports from the principal countries during the last five years was as follows:—

Country.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	250,748	366,151	362,763	495,992	526,690
Australia	317,046	379,886	261,108	307,387	420,989
Canada	25,675	38,175	45,309	56,823	81,777
India	33,944	39,242	63,588	86,755	91,997
New Zealand	100,255	88,174	34,343	45,505	59,633
Japan	29,814	39,269	29,764	39,625	50,109
Dutch East Indies ...	22,633	18,794	24,643	25,755	34,420
United States... ...	25,937	42,431	86,285	95,150	91,065

Digitized by Google

The proportion of the total import trade done with these countries during the same period was as follows:—

Country.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom ...	29·25	34·24	36·45	39·45	35·07
Australia	36·98	35·53	26·24	24·45	28·03
Canada	3·00	3·57	4·55	4·52	5·45
India	3·96	3·67	6·39	6·90	6·13
New Zealand	11·69	8·25	3·45	3·62	3·97
Japan	3·48	3·67	2·99	3·15	3·34
Dutch East Indies ...	2·64	1·76	2·48	2·05	2·29
United States... ...	3·03	3·97	8·67	7·58	6·06

The principal articles imported from the above-mentioned countries during the last two years are as follows:—

FROM UNITED KINGDOM.

Article.	*1935.*		*1936.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Boots and shoes ...	—	1,553	—	1,937
Cement and lime ...	69,546 cwt.	7,126	85,435 cwt.	9,278
Cinematograph films	733,633 ft.	4,320	366,189 ft.	1,830
Drapery	—	124,362	—	101,229
Drugs	—	6,290	—	8,509
Hardware	—	56,108	—	34,876
Iron, black, and steel, mild.	10,707 cwt.	5,925	8,225 cwt.	4,334
Iron, galvanized ...	19,909 cwt.	15,691	23,720 cwt.	27,244
Machinery	—	49,654	—	92,060
Manures	3,165 tons	20,911	3,212 tons	21,246
Matches, wood ...	34,600 gross	6,266	43,500 gross	7,623
Motor vehicles ...	90	10,787	89	12,075
Oils	59,320 gal.	5,792	67,493 gal.	6,985
Paints	167 tons	8,276	146 tons	8,085
Salt	16,886 cwt.	2,662	13,616 cwt.	2,002
Spirits	17,043 gal.	18,032	18,504 gal.	19,505
Stationery	—	6,032	—	5,381
Tobacco	18,281 lb.	7,562	25,638 lb.	11,091
Toys and fancy goods	—	6,241	—	5,910
Other articles ...	—	132,412	—	145,490
TOTAL. ...		£ 495,992		£ 526,690

Digitized by Google

From Australia.

Article.	*1935.*		*1936.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Bags and sacks ...	125 doz.	27	350 doz.	92
Beer	53,473 gal.	8,436	84,146 gal.	13,913
Biscuits, fancy ...	132,013 lb.	5,155	155,161 lb.	6,260
Confectionery ...	74,081 lb.	3,393	84,367 lb.	4,120
Coal	31,545 tons	19,699	24,413 tons	15,476
Cordage and rope ...	719 cwt.	1,854	1,156 cwt.	3,049
Drapery	—	1,792	—	1,739
Drugs	—	4,123	—	5,463
Flour, sharps and pollard.	17,422,685 lb.	60,146	20,773,078 lb.	89,782
Fruits and vegetables, fresh.	20,185 cwt.	9,091	20,765 cwt.	9,505
Grease	2,577 cwt.	1,410	3,041 cwt.	1,651
Hardware	—	19,452	—	19,419
Machinery	—	34,998	—	57,624
Meats	240,374 lb.	4,621	315,609 lb.	9,431
Oils	1,160 gal.	622	757 gal.	579
Paints	76 tons	4,244	96 tons	5,454
Photographs and films.	140,504 ft.	822	105,715 ft.	529
Rice	1,482 cwt.	799	1,400 cwt.	862
Spirits	1,256 gal.	460	1,839 gal.	673
Tobacco, cigarettes, and cigars.	84,031 lb.	24,503	109,994 lb.	32,160
Other articles ...	—	101,740	—	143,208
Total ...		£ 307,387		£ 420,989

From Canada.

Fish	578,279 lb.	11,617	793,539 lb.	13,731
Motor vehicles ...	116	14,399	145	19,972
Timber	3,065,188 ft.	14,947	5,103,699 ft.	26,266
Tyres and tubes ...	—	5,341	—	7,753
Other articles ...	—	10,519	—	14,055
Total ...		£ 56,823		£ 81,777

From India.

Bags and sacks ...	179,453 doz.	49,995	175,867 doz.	46,346
Dhall	12,078 cwt.	7,126	16,191 cwt.	9,205
Drapery	—	5,604	—	5,043
Ghee and Ghee substitutes.	13,367 lb.	216	58,034 lb.	1,379
Oil, mustard ...	57,243 gal.	8,800	46,021 gal.	6,810
Other articles ...	—	15,014	—	23,214
Total ...		£ 86,755		£ 91,997

Digitized by Google

FROM NEW ZEALAND.

Article.	*1935.*		*1936.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Bacon and hams ...	59,519 lb.	3,032	73,292 lb.	3,636
Drapery	—	1,709	—	1,573
Fruit and vegetables, fresh.	16,759 cwt.	6,664	22,272 cwt.	7,699
Grease and tallow ...	1,581 cwt.	2,228	2,230 cwt.	2,623
Manure	1,170 cwt.	404	1,403 cwt.	465
Meat...	386,738 lb.	9,089	500,551 lb.	12,864
Photographs and films.	—	—	—	—
Soap, plain	516,121 lb.	4,588	519,732 lb.	4,945
Sugar	363,446 lb.	2,018	443,595 lb.	2,530
Other articles ...	—	15,773	—	23,298
TOTAL ...		£ 45,505		£ 59,633

FROM JAPAN.

Drapery	—	32,443	—	38,954
Other articles ...	—	7,182	—	11,155
TOTAL ...		£ 39,625		£ 50,109

FROM DUTCH EAST INDIES.

Oil, crude	956,392 gal.	4,887	1,428,687 gal.	9,564
Kerosene	166,536 gal.	5,196	132,400 gal.	3,929
Motor fuel	517,976 gal.	15,645	654,088 gal.	20,916
Other articles ...	—	27	—	11
TOTAL ...		£ 25,755		£ 34,420

FROM UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Cinematograph films	2,825,391 ft.	17,157	2,456,777 ft.	11,171
Fruit and vegetables, fresh.	3,916 cwt.	2,370	3,919 cwt.	2,803
Hardware	—	5,136	—	5,418
Oil, kerosene ...	235,716 gal.	8,247	172,122 gal.	6,498
Motor fuel	689,927 gal.	11,644	696,916 gal.	12,013
Other fuel	557,831 gal.	9,509	345,501 gal.	8,702
Machinery, agricultural.	—	6,003	—	5,904
Other articles ...	—	29,967	—	33,292
Motor vehicles ...	29	5,117	30	5,264
TOTAL ...		£ 95,150		£ 91,065

With the exception of drapery, all importations of principal items showed increases, the most marked being beer, flour,

Digitized by Google

sharps and rice in goods imported for human consumption. Iron, steel, machinery and timber gave the larger increases in manufactured articles.

Drapery, machinery and other manufactured articles were the principal items imported from the United Kingdom. Australia and New Zealand supplied the bulk of the foodstuffs.

Imports from within the Empire were 1·6 per cent. more than in 1935.

Exports.

The total value of exports in 1936 amounted to £2,135,427 as compared with £1,820,396 for the previous year—an increase of £315,031.

The figures for 1935 and 1936 are as follows:—

	1935.	*1936.*	*Increase over 1935.*
	£	£	£
Exports, the produce of the Colony.	1,735,005	2,023,496	288,491
Re-exports	85,391	111,931	26,540
	£1,820,396	£2,135,427	£315,031

Sugar.—The quantity of sugar exported in 1936 was 140,864 tons and constitutes a record. As compared with 1935, the quantity exported was 5,231 tons in excess and in value £17,573.

The following table shows the countries to which sugar was exported during the year 1936.

	Tons.	*Value.*
		£
United Kingdom	82,636	779,385
Canada	57,123	540,978
New Zealand	1,103	11,320
Other countries	2	18
	140,864	£1,331,701

Copra.—The quantity of copra exported in 1936 was 34,582 tons valued at £406,393, this being 7,286 tons in excess of 1935 and in value, £176,130 in excess.

The following table shows the ports to which copra was exported during 1936:—

	Tons.	*Value.*
		£
United Kingdom	760	9,020
Australia	5,073	63,332
Europe	15,891	180,084
France	1,012	12,586
Mexico	2,700	33,016
United States	7,322	88,129
Netherlands	733	8,136
Germany	650	7,508
Spain	441	4,582
	34,582	£406,393

Digitized by Google

Bananas.—The total exports for 1936 were equivalent to 320,143 bunches valued at £84,548 as compared with 303,127 bunches valued at £66,863 in 1935.

The following table shows the quantity, value and the countries to which bananas were exported in 1935 and 1936:—

	1935.		*1936.*	
	Quantity. Bunches.	*Value.*	*Quantity. Bunches.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Australia	16,411	3,732	2,998	792
Canada	15,767	3,988	18,924	4,725
New Zealand...	270,949	59,143	298,221	79,031
Total No. of bunches ...	303,127	£66,863	320,143	£84,548

Gold Bullion.—The quantity of gold bullion exported in 1936 amounted to 17,107 oz. valued at £131,684 as compared with 6,933 oz. valued at £54,019 in 1935, an increase in quantity of 10,174 oz. and in value £77,665. It is estimated that the production in 1937 will be far in excess of 1936 and greater in 1938. All gold bullion was exported to Australia.

Molasses.—The quantity exported in 1936 was 22,576 tons valued at £22,576, this being 6,031 tons and in value £6,031 more than 1935. Of the quantity exported Australia took 18,181 tons and New Zealand 4,395 tons.

Trocas Shell.—The quantity and value of trocas shell exported in 1936 was 185 tons valued at £14,305 this being 113 tons less in quantity and in value, £5,921 less than 1935.

Exports in 1936 were divided among the following countries:—

	Tons.	*Value.*
		£
United Kingdom...	23	1,877
Australia	7	601
Europe	28	2,124
France	52	3,997
Japan	69	5,275
Netherlands	6	431
	185	£14,305

Other domestic products exported in 1936 were valued at £32,289 this being £672 less than in 1935.

Digitized by Google

Expressed in percentages of the total value of exports the following table shows the relative proportions of each of the major exports, and of the minor exports as a group, in the year 1936.

Article.	*Percentage in value of total exports.*
Sugar	62·36
Copra	19·03
Gold Bullion	6·17
Bananas	3·96
Molasses	1·06
Trocas Shell	·67
Minor Exports	1·51
Re-exports	5·24
	100·00

The Exports of the principal products and minor products of the Colony for the past five years are shown in the following statements.

Digitized by Google

PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS.

Article.	*1932.*		*1933.*		*1934.*		*1935.*		*1936.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£		£		£
Sugar ... ... tons	131,302	1,289,239	113,836	1,180,782	103,863	1,069,049	135,633	1,314,128	140,864	1,331,701
Copra ... ... tons	15,076	170,240	22,597	195,788	23,520	127,941	27,296	230,263	34,582	406,393
Molasses ... ... tons	9,448	9,448	12,937	12,937	16,828	16,828	16,545	16,545	22,576	22,576
Bananas ... bunches	346,968	67,237	326,422	69,243	324,494	67,845	303,127	66,863	320,143	84,548
Biscuits ... ... lb.	133,266	3,135	84,654	1,919	53,749	1,088	71,394	1,438	108,742	2,363
Butter ... ... cwt.	2,421	11,299	1,837	7,564	1,307	4,016	244	970	—	—
Cotton ... ... lb.	101,997	5,100	34,870	2,300	2,513	84	3,860	257	30,669	1,604
Vegetables ... cwt.	5,892	1,875	3,645	1,228	1,961	940	5,881	2,237	9,045	3,872
Pines, canned ... lb.	621,036	8,095	380,711	5,582	282,686	3,808	114,794	1,718	43,071	522
Pines, fresh ... cases	1,776	668	2,684	1,007	2,171	816	986	371	1,206	455
Trocas shell ... tons	266	12,125	365	19,945	319	20,733	298	20,226	185	14,305
Gold Bullion ... oz.	305	2,053	2,079	13,500	1,033	7,590	6,933	54,019	17,107	131,684

Digitized by Google

MINOR PRODUCTS.

Article.		*1932.*		*1933.*		*1934.*		*1935.*		*1936.*	
		Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
			£		£		£		£		£
Beans, Mauritius...	cwt.	2,590	3,237	1,201	1,855	1,595	2,660	961	1,683	596	745
Bêche-de-mer ...	cwt.	2,074	8,801	255	1,348	272	1,408	434	2,381	48	258
Coconuts	No.	330,930	994	251,330	754	300,040	807	16,400	490	88,950	267
Fruits, fresh, other than bananas or pines.		—	1,116	—	3,663	—	2,010	—	5,248	—	2,439
Gum	cwt.	3,074	3,013	2,618	3,220	3,936	4,364	3,657	4,196	4,373	4,918
Oil, coconut ...	tons	18	410	50	1,129	65	1,352	81	1,690	113	2,942
Shell, pearl ...	lb.	21,504	193	12,824	128	7,817	80	8,035	81	1,008	11
,, turtle ...	lb.	1,400	879	1,687	1,041	2,788	1,870	1,670	1,342	1,033	667
Soap, plain ...	cwt.	3,141	4,332	3,084	4,338	2,632	3,244	3,311	4,255	4,574	6,318
Hides	No.	3,473	1,724	3,587	1,381	4,546	1,917	4,506	2,867	4,526	3,047

Digitized by Google

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Labour of Fijians.

There has been no variation during the year in the conditions regarding employment of labourers under contract of service.

The local market price of copra varied between £9 and £15 during the year; this improved price has meant that labourers for plantations are more in demand.

In 1936, a large number of Fijians were employed in the construction of the new Suga-Singatoka Road. The Tavua gold mines and Mount Kasi gold mine also gave employment to many natives.

All recruitment of labour is entirely voluntary. As each Fijian is a member of a land-owning unit and has the right to use a portion of the tribal lands, he is capable of supporting himself and family from the products of his lands. There is, therefore, no necessity for him to work for wages, and generally speaking he only does so in order to gain money for some specific object. The majority of Fijians support themselves from the products of their lands, and those who elect to work under contract of service usually return to their villages on completion of the contract. There is, therefore, no labouring class of Fijians dependent for their subsistence solely upon the wages they earn. The constant change in the personnel of the labourers obviates any serious interference with the native social system and prevents the growth of a class of Fijians divorced from tribal associations and dependent for their livelihood on the economic condition of the labour market. These conditions provide probably the most effective safeguard for the proper treatment of labourers under contract of service.

The employment of casual labourers is mostly confined to the ports of Suva, Lautoka and Levuka. A limited number of Fijians are employed in the commercial houses and a certain proportion of these remain more or less permanently in the commercial centres. The number of Fijians employed as carpenters, boat-builders, marine engineers, and firemen is comparatively small. Their employment as skilled workers is limited, not only by the demand for such work but by their ability to compete with members of other races. Most of the small inter-insular sailing vessels are manned by Fijians under the charge of a certificated native master. Few, if any, of these men work under contract of service. The conditions of labour vary according to the size of the vessel and the particular work on which it is employed and employment is a matter of agreement between the owner and the crew.

Digitized by Google

Labour and Wages of Indians.

Wage conditions have not changed during the past year and the various standards are as follows:—

Unskilled labour, Suva; 2s. 6d. per day—country districts varying from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per day. In the cane areas the labour is seasonal as far as mill workers and cane cutters are concerned. Mill labourers are paid on an average of 1s. 8d. per day with a bonus of 7d. per day during the crushing season. These workers enjoy certain privileges in the purchase of provisions which are not available to outside labour. Cane cutters receive bonuses from growers that in many instances raise their earnings to as much as from 3s. to 3s. 6d. per day.

Casual labour is in firm demand during the crushing season and owing to the fact that the source of supply is from the small peasant farmers—who are growing more and more independent of outside income—the supply is never in excess of requirements and frequently the opposite.

Public Works Department, Labour.

The total average number of labourers, skilled and unskilled, employed in the Public Works Department, including Road Boards, was 1,895. Of these, 1,037 were employed in the Suva District and 858 in various country districts.

Wages for unskilled labour ranged from 1s. 6d. per day to 5s. per day, the higher rate being paid in Suva District.

No fixed rate is paid to skilled workmen, rates ranging from 5s. per day for juniors to 25s. per day, according to the efficiency displayed. Half-castes are employed as boat builders, house carpenters, blacksmiths and fitters, while occasionally native Fijians and Indians qualify for these positions. This class of labour is gradually displacing the skilled European mechanic in the various trades enumerated above and the time is approaching when Europeans will only be employed as foremen and in the higher grades.

The following figures give an idea of the wages paid to the various classes of workmen:—

Carpenters and joiners 3s. 6d. to 20s. a day, depending on the degree of skill.

Boatbuilders 8s. to 23s. 4d. a day. Some skilled Fijians employed in the boat sheds are paid 3s. 9d. to 8s. a day.

Mechanics (including motor mechanics, fitters, turners, blacksmiths, boilermakers, etc.) up to 25s. a day. Apprentices (usually Europeans and half-castes) 10s. rising to £2 10s. a week.

Digitized by Google

Painters (usually Indians) 3s. 6d. a day, leading hands up to 9s. a day, lorry and steam roller drivers (mostly Europeans) 10s. to 18s. a day. The average is £4 10s. a week.

Road Overseers (chiefly Europeans) £16 to £25 per month. Road gang sirdars (Indians) £4 10s. to £10 a month. Average £7 10s. a month.

The wages paid by the Public Works Department and the conditions under which the labourers work are practically identical with those obtaining outside the Department. The hours of work are eight a day, or forty-eight a week, and these hours are only departed from by the planters and the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, whose employees work nine hours a day or 54 hours a week.

There is no single standard of living which could be taken as applicable to all classes, as there are at least four categories and each has a distinct standard. Again, the standards vary within each group and any generalization would be of little value.

Cost of Living.

The tariff in hotels varies from 10s. to 17s. 6d. a day, or from £9 to £20 a month. Boarding-house terms average about £7 to £9 a month.

In Suva and Levuka the rent of houses varies from £4 to £8 a month unfurnished, and £8 to £10 furnished. Furnished houses are very scarce and usually are only available for limited periods while the owners are absent from the Colony on holiday. In country districts houses are almost unprocurable.

The usual number of servants employed is between one and three, comprising a cook-general; or cook and house-boy; or cook, house-boy and a garden-boy or nurse-girl. Cooks earn £5 to £7 a month and food, others £2 to £4 a month and food. Indians are usually employed as domestic servants. Fijian servants are a little cheaper but less efficient. White servants are very rarely employed.

A family of four persons would find little margin for the provision of education for their children, or for an occasional holiday in a cooler country, on a gross income of less than £500 a year.

In Suva, a single man could live, but with little margin for emergencies, on £200 a year. In country districts, if quarters are provided, he could live on slightly less.

European artisans tend to be employed only on fairly responsible work and it is unlikely that a married man could manage on less than £250 to £300 a year.

Digitized by Google

Average cost of foodstuffs in common use.

Butter...	1s. 6d. per lb.
Bread	3d. per lb.
Milk	4d. per quart.
Cheese...	1s. per lb.
Fresh beef	10d. per lb.
Mutton	1s. 3d. per lb.
Pork	1s. 3d. per lb.
Rice	3d. per lb.
Coffee	1s. 6d. to 2s. per lb.
Tea	2s. 6d. to 3s. 3d. per lb.
Sugar, white	3d. per lb.
Sugar, brown...	2d. per lb.
Salt	1½d. per lb.
Eggs	2s. to 3s. 6d. per dozen.
Bacon	1s. 6d. per lb.
Preserved meats	1s. per lb.
Onions	2d. per lb.
Flour	2½d. per lb.
Potatoes	13s. 6d. per cwt.

Education.—Primary education can be obtained in Levuka, and primary and secondary education in Suva in Government schools. Tuition fees are as follows:—

	Children of Ratepayers.	*Children of Non-Ratepayers.*
Primary	Free.	£2 2s. a year.
Secondary	£6 a year.	£7 10s. a year.

A charge of £50 a year is made for boarding in the hostels attached to the Suva Grammar Schools, with reductions if two or more children of the same family are boarders.

For higher education and for health purposes many Europeans send their children to Australia or New Zealand. The average cost of education in these circumstances is about £150 a year.

Medical fees.—The usual fee charged by a private medical practitioner is 10s. 6d. a visit. The fees charged in Government hospitals are 6s. a day for the public wards, and 10s. 6d. a day for private wards. Operation fees in these hospitals range from £1 1s. to £10 10s. Medicines and medical appliances are expensive.

Sports and social clubs.—Entrance fees to social clubs range from £2 2s. to £10 10s., and yearly subscriptions from £2 2s. to £4 4s. The entrance fees for tennis and golf clubs are from £1 1s. to £2 2s. and the yearly subscription fees £1 1s. to £4 4s.

Holidays.—For health reasons it is advisable that Europeans should periodically visit countries which have a more temperate climate. The average return passage rates are as follows:—

New Zealand	£12 to £22 10s.
Australia	£25 to £50.
England	£87 10s. to £159 10s.

Digitized by Google

It is difficult to give an accurate indication of the actual cost of living of Fijian and Indian labourers, of whom only a small number are dependent on their wages. In very many cases these labourers live in their own houses and cultivate small plots of land which enable them to grow a portion of their food supplies. It is also the common practice for Indian labourers to grow and husk their own rice. In these ways they materially reduce their actual living costs. All Fijian labourers are land-owners and are under no economic necessity to work for wages. All Fijians and Indians receive free medical treatment at all Government hospitals. Agricultural and other labourers employed under contract of service are provided with food, lodging, and medical care. In general, the wages paid to Fijians and Indians, who live largely upon locally produced foodstuffs, are more than sufficient to meet their needs.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Historical.

The history of native education is closely interwoven with that of the various Mission Societies represented in Fiji. The Methodist Mission arrived in 1835. The Roman Catholic Mission followed in 1844, the Anglican Mission in 1870 and the Seventh Day Adventist Mission in 1889. The early missionaries reduced the language to writing, published a Fijian-English Dictionary and printed a translation of the New Testament. They established schools throughout the Colony and the high percentage of literacy is mainly due to their efforts.

The Education Ordinance of 1916 established a Department of Education and a Board of Education. The latter was given power to register and classify schools and teachers and to regulate a system of grants-in-aid.

In 1926, an Education Commission was appointed to inquire into the education system and advise as to the steps to be taken to effect an improvement in the methods of, and facilities provided for, the education of the various races in the Colony. Following the recommendations of this Commission, the Department of Education was strengthened by the appointment of a Director of Education, an Assistant Director, and two Inspectors of Schools. The Education Ordinance of 1916 was repealed and Ordinance No. 1 of 1929 substituted. This Ordinance reconstituted the Board of Education and gave it greater control over the registration and classification of schools and teachers, the instruction to be given, the standards of attainment to be maintained, and the qualifications and number of teachers required for various grades of schools.

Grants to registered schools are based mainly on the average attendance of children of school age (6-14) for the three months preceding 1st July in the prevous year and partly on the grade

Digitized by Google

of the teachers employed. Grants vary from £3 per head in a school with an average attendance of 20 pupils, to £1 18s. 8d. in a school with an average attendance of 203.

The Board has power to direct that a particular school shall be registered for the education of children of a particular race, and schools have accordingly been registered for Europeans, Fijians, Indians, Chinese and Melanesians, while a number of schools, usually in the towns, enrol children of all races.

European Education.

There are 14 schools for Europeans or part-Europeans; four are Government schools, five are controlled by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, three by the Roman Catholic Mission and two by local committees.

All of these are primary schools and four (two Government and two Roman Catholic) have secondary departments. The Government schools prepare pupils for the New Zealand Education Department Examinations or the University Entrance Examination. The two Roman Catholic Mission schools prepare pupils for the Cambridge Local Examinations. Manual instruction for boys, and cooking for girls, are included in the curriculum. A commercial course is given in the two schools in Suva for girls—the Girls' Grammar School and St. Joseph's Convent.

European children in isolated parts of the Colony may be enrolled in the Government Correspondence Classes, which are organized to enable a pupil taking the course to pass into an appropriate class in the Grammar Schools. Fifty pupils were enrolled during the year. The fees are £2 a year and books and stationery are supplied at cost price.

Under a Scheme of Co-operation between the Education Department of New Zealand and the Government of Fiji, the three Government schools are staffed by New Zealand teachers, who serve as a rule from two to six years in Fiji. The teachers in the Colonial Sugar Refining Company schools are usually recruited in New Zealand. The syllabus of instruction in these schools is very similar to that prescribed in New Zealand. A number of children leave Fiji every year to attend schools, the greater number go to New Zealand, some to Australia and a few to England.

Half of the net cost of three of the Government schools for Europeans is met from a special education rate levied in the towns of Suva and Levuka, in which the schools are situated. Children of the owners or occupiers of houses on which education rate is paid are exempt from tuition fees in the Primary classes and pay £6 a year in the secondary classes. Others pay £2 2s. 0d. in the primary and £7 10s. 0d. a year in the secondary classes. All fees are reduced by one-third when two or more members of a family attend.

Digitized by Google

The Government maintains two hostels in Suva, one for boys and the other for girls. The fee is £50 a year with liberal reductions for two or more members of a family. Hostels are also maintained by the Methodist Mission in Suva and by the Roman Catholic Mission in Suva, Lautoka and Levuka. There were 491 girls and 535 boys on the roll of the 14 schools. The gross cost to Government of all European schools was £10,929 4s. 8d.

Some European children are also enrolled in schools for children of all races. The total number of European children in all schools is 1,435.

Fijian Education.

There are 298 schools including seven Government schools for Fijians. Practically every Fijian child has access to a school of some kind although many of them are not very efficient. Grants-in-aid were paid to 123 primary schools, and the number will increase as more certificated teachers are trained. In these grant-aided schools Fijian is the medium of instruction in Classes 1 to 4. In addition to the usual school subjects English may be taught for a limited time per day. The seven Government schools are residential. In six of them, known as Provincial Schools, the syllabus is that of the assisted primary schools, except that more attention is paid to English, which becomes the medium of instruction in the higher classes. Each school maintains a farm and at least nine hours a week are devoted to practical agriculture.

The Fijians contribute £4,350 a year towards the maintenance of these schools. Each Province selects pupils in proportion to its annual contributions and in many Provinces the competition is so keen that it has been possible to select the brighter pupils from the local schools. Pupils usually enrol at about the age of 12 and remain at school to the end of the year in which they attain the age of 18.

The Queen Victoria Memorial School for Fijians is maintained by the Government, a fee of £6 a year being charged. Six exhibitions, tenable for three years, are awarded annually on the results of a competitive examination. Other pupils are required to pass an entrance examination. The roll in 1936 was 89. The course is similar to that in Provincial Schools, but owing to the more rigorous selection of pupils the standard is higher. Pupils of this school are prepared for admission to the Government service, the Teachers' Training Schools and the Central Medical School.

The total number of Fijians in all schools that forwarded returns was 15,569 of whom 8,972 were boys and 6,597 girls.

The gross cost to Government of Fijian education, excluding the Central Medical School, was £24,085 13s. 6d.

Digitized by Google

Indian Education.

In 1936 there were 77 schools for Indians including seven Government schools. Of these 59 were assisted by grants-in-aid. In these schools Hindustani is the medium of instruction in Classes I to IV. In addition to the usual school subjects English is taught. In many of the schools an attempt is made to teach a third language, usually Tamil. A number of the assisted schools are controlled by local committees. Many find it difficult to secure the necessary funds to supplement the grant made by Government, but generally conditions improve yearly. Indian boys may proceed to the Secondary Department of the Natambua Indian School where they may be prepared for the University Entrance Examination. The standard of all schools is improving as more trained teachers become available.

There were 5,631 Indian pupils, 4,164 boys and 1,467 girls, in all schools in 1936. The gross amount spent on Indian education was £13,040 14s. 11d.

Training of Teachers.

There are four training institutions (one Government and three Mission) for male teachers. Both Indians and Fijians are enrolled in two of these and in the others Fijians only. The course is for two years and students are selected by a competitive examination. Government assistance was given towards the training of 58 students.

There are no special training schools for women. In 1936 special grants were paid to two Methodist Mission girls' schools to enable them to train women teachers, of whom there were 14. In addition to these a number of girls were employed as probationers in girls' schools.

There are five classes of teachers' certificates. To be eligible for a first-class certificate a teacher must hold the Bachelor's degree of an approved university or its equivalent. For the lowest or fifth class the standard is approximately that of a normal English child of 14.

Technical Schools.

The Ndavuilevu Technical School, controlled by the Methodist Mission, gives technical training, mainly carpentry, to Fijian boys. A similar school is maintained by the Seventh Day Adventist Mission at Ovalau.

Navuso Agricultural School.

This school was established by the Methodist Mission in 1924 on an estate of 830 acres and provides a course in farming and dairying for 87 young Fijian men. A Government grant of £400 was paid in 1936.

Digitized by Google

Other Schools.

Separate departmental schools are controlled by the Medical, Agricultural, and Police Departments to train their native assistants.

Finance.

The gross amount expended from general revenue in 1936 on educational services was £50,365 4s. 10d.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Mail communication within the Colony is maintained by means of vessels subsidized by Government, by motor road services, by mail carriers and by itinerant vessels.

The s.s. *Malake* runs between Suva, Levuka, Savu Savu, Ndeloi (Mbutha Bay), Rambi, and the Taveuni coast twice monthly. This vessel also calls once every two months at Malau, the port for Lambasa, if so required, and four times in the year proceeds to Rotuma.

The s.s. *Andi Rewa* runs between Suva, Levuka, Nambouwalu, Ndreketi and Lambasa twice monthly, calling at certain small places en route either on the inward or outward journey.

A subsidized cutter conveys mails between Taveuni and Ndeloi (Mbutha Bay) once weekly.

Mails are conveyed by motor vehicle from Suva to Nausori, Nanduruloulou, Korovou, Nanukuloa, Ellington, Raki Raki, Tavua, Mba and Lautoka and return daily except Sundays, and from Lautoka to Nandi and Nandronga and return five times weekly. There is also a motor mail service three times weekly between Nausori, Korovou and Vunindawa.

Carriers are chiefly used on Vanua Levu, Taveuni and Kandavu, between post offices on those islands. The services run once weekly.

External communication is provided by the British vessels *Aorangi* and *Niagara* of the Canadian-Australasian Line, to which Company a subsidy of £5,000 per annum is paid, and by the American vessels *Mariposa* and *Monterey* of the Matson Navigation Company. The former vessels call at Suva, once in every four weeks, on their voyages in each direction between Sydney, Auckland, Honolulu and Vancouver, and the latter, once in every four weeks, on their voyages between Melbourne, Sydney, Auckland, Pago Pago, Honolulu, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

The *Matua* provides a four-weekly cargo and passenger service between Auckland, Rarotonga, Nukualofa, Apia and Suva.

Direct steamers from London to Suva, via Panama, arrive

Digitized by Google

at intervals of approximately six weeks and occasional calls are made by vessels from Australia and New Zealand travelling to ports in the United Kingdom, via Panama. Calls are also made at fairly regular intervals by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company's vessel *Fiona*.

Telephone communication is available between Suva, Nausori, Nanduruloulou and Vunindawa; between Suva, Tailevu and Levuka on the island of Ovalau (communication between Tailevu and Ovalau being by submarine cable); between Suva and Navua; between Nanukuloa, Ellington, Raki Raki, Tavua, Mba and Lautoka, and between Nandarivatu and Mba. Telephone exchange areas are Suva, Lautoka, Levuka, Nausori and Navua, and rural party lines are maintained on Taveuni (40 miles), and in the Savu Savu district on the south-east coast of Vanua Levu.

Wireless stations, operated by Amalgamated Wireless Limited, are situated at Suva, Tavenui, Lambasa, and Savu Savu. The Government operates a permanent station on the island of Rotuma, and also a temporary station at Lautoka. Wireless telephone communication exists between Levuka and the Central Leper Hospital at Makongai.

Telegraphic communication beyond the Colony is provided by submarine cable operated by Cable and Wireless Limited, and by wireless from the Suva station with the principal groups in the Western Pacific and also with Honolulu and Sydney.

Roads.

The total length of the roads of the Colony is made up as follows:—

	Miles.
Metalled	200
Gravelled	282
Earth (motorable in fine weather)	102
Earth (not motorable)	52
Bridle tracks	1,583
	2,219

In addition the Suva Town Board controls 13 miles of roads, of which seven are tar and bitumen surfaced.

Tramways.

The only railways or tramways in existence in Fiji are of the two-foot gauge, laid down by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, on the Rewa River; along the sea coast from Singatoka (south-west Viti Levu) to Tavua (north of Viti Levu); in the neighbourhood of Penang on the north-east corner of Viti Levu; and at Lambasa on the island of Vanua Levu. These railways are primarily for the transport of cane to the various

Digitized by Google

sugar mills under the control of the Company, but the length from Singatoka to Tavua provides a free passenger service operating to a schedule approved by the Government. The total length of permanent line laid down by the Company is 380 miles. About 220 miles of this total consist of the main line from Singatoka to Tavua, with the necessary branch lines. Between 40 and 50 locomotives are used in connection with the transport work of the Company.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

Two private banks are operating in the Colony—the Bank of New South Wales, with three establishments, and the Bank of New Zealand with one. The paid-up capital of the former was £8,780,000 at 31st December while that of the latter was £6,328,125 at 31st March. The amount of deposits held in the Colony by the Bank of New South Wales was £1,360,335 at 31st December, and by the Bank of New Zealand £391,800 at 31st March.

In addition there is a Government Savings Bank, in which the number of accounts, at the end of the year, was 9,919 and the total amount on deposit was £306,700, an increase of £36,715 over the previous year's figure. The assets, exclusive of the Depreciation Fund, were as follows:—

	£
Investments (market price on 31st December, 1936).	367,048
Cash at Bank and with Treasury	5,021
Total	£372,069

The transactions of the Savings Bank for the year 1936 were as follows:—

	£	£
Income from investments		12,415
Interest credited to Depositors ...	7,825	
Expenses	3,383	
		11,208
Surplus		£1,207

The rate of interest paid to depositors was 3 per cent. up to £500, and 2½ per cent. on deposits exceeding £500 up to a maximum of £1,000.

Currency.

Legislation in 1933 and 1934 provided for the issue of Government currency notes and coin which follow the United Kingdom currency denominations.

Digitized by Google

The Fiji pound is linked to sterling by law at the rate of £F.111 = £100 sterling.

The position of the Note Security Fund at 31st December, 1936, was as follows:—

		Sterling. £	*Fiji.* £
Liabilities	... Notes in circulation ...		597,862 5 0
Assets	... Note Security Fund invested portion.	594,357 8 9	659,736 15 0
	Cash with Crown Agents	29,898 7 11	33,187 4 4
	Cash with Colonial Treasurer.		14,068 13 0
		£624,255 16 8	£706,992 12 4

Weights and Measures.

The weights and measures used in Fiji are the same as in England.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure from public funds on the various works carried out by the Public Works Department amounted in all to £240,891 18s. 4d. This expenditure was incurred under the following headings:—

	£	s.	d.
Personal Emoluments	16,851	6	4
Public Works Recurrent	88,187	3	0
Public Works Extraordinary	38,899	10	3
Loan Funds	64,142	1	10
Miscellaneous	32,811	16	11
	£240,891	18	4

The corresponding figures for the previous five years are as follows:—

	£
1931	166,690
1932	160,747
1933	148,155
1934	190,718
1935	247,369

The Administration of the Department is under the control of the Director of Public Works, with headquarters in Suva, the execution of the works being divided into three branches under the District Engineers, Suva and Lautoka, and the Mechanical Engineer, Suva.

The Suva District comprises about one-third of Viti Levu and the majority of the other islands, including Rotuma. The headquarters are at Walu Bay, Suva, where the main stores and workshops are situated.

Digitized by Google

The Lautoka District comprises the Northern and Western portions of the Island of Viti Levu, and the Yasawa Group. The headquarters are at Lautoka, where there is a smaller depot consisting of stores and workshops.

The Mechanical Engineer's branch is responsible for the running of the principal quarry and stone crushing plant, for a fleet of nine launches and tugs, two slipways and of extensive workshops for boat building and all kinds of mechanical engineering workshop repairs.

The Rewa River Bridge is nearing completion, and will probably be opened to traffic early in June, 1937. The cylinder foundations near the Nausori approach were carried 161 feet below low water. It is believed that such depth represents a record for the southern hemisphere.

The South Coast Road, which will complete the circuminsular route, is proceeding steadily. The section between Suva and Navua was opened to traffic in March, and it is anticipated that the whole circular route will be ready early in 1938.

The loss of the motor vessel *Derek* in a hurricane early in 1936 hampered the progress of marine works generally, and beaconing, in consequence, has been at a standstill.

Plans, specifications and quantities for the new Government offices were practically completed during the year, and construction has now commenced.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The administration of justice throughout the Colony is provided for by the constitution of the Supreme Court and various District Courts of Summary Jurisdiction. The Supreme Court Ordinance, 1875, declares the Supreme Court to be a Court of Record and Supreme Court of Judicature in the Colony.

The Supreme Court consists of a Judge, called the Chief Justice, appointed from time to time by Letters Patent. There is a Registrar and a staff of assistants.

The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is defined by sections 28, 29 and 30 of the Ordinance. By these sections it is enacted that the Supreme Court shall, within the Colony, have the same jurisdiction as that which His Majesty's High Court of Justice has in England, and it is thereunder constituted a Court of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery Assize and *nisi prius*, with like powers and jurisdiction as such Court has in England. It is a Court of Equity, and has, within the Colony, the same jurisdiction as the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, and all the powers and authorities of the Lord High Chancellor of England. It is further a Court of Probate and a Court of Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, and, under an Order-in-Council dated the 10th March, 1894, an Admiralty jurisdiction of the Court was also established.

Digitized by Google

Under Ordinance No. 4 of 1875, provision is also made for the appointment of a Sheriff whose duty it is to execute all process of the Supreme Court and to act as Marshal of the Supreme Court in its Admiralty jurisdiction. The Sheriff is assisted in his work by Deputy Sheriffs in the country districts, the duty being performed by the various District Commissioners.

In addition to the local Ordinances, the Common Law, the Rules of Equity, and the Statutes of general application which were in force in England on the 2nd January, 1875, are in force in the Colony, but only so far as the circumstances of the Colony and its inhabitants permit.

During the year there are four Criminal Sessions of the Court sitting at the Central Criminal Court. These sessions are held at Suva every third month. The Court also goes on Circuit at regular intervals each year to obviate the expense and inconvenience of bringing in to Suva cases from some of the outlying districts.

The Criminal Procedure of the Supreme Court is laid down by Ordinance No. 6 of 1875,* by which it is directed that trials shall be either by a jury of seven or by the Chief Justice sitting with assessors. When the accused, or one of them, or the person against whom the crime or offence has been committed, or one of them, is a native or a person of Asiatic origin or descent, the trial takes place before the Chief Justice with the aid of assessors in lieu of a jury, unless the Chief Justice shall for special reasons think fit to order a jury. It is provided that the opinion of each assessor shall be given orally and recorded in writing, but the decision shall be vested exclusively in the Judge. In jury cases, the members of the jury are required in the first instance to give a unanimous verdict, but if after a deliberation of at least four hours they are unable to agree, the Court can accept a majority verdict of not less than five to two. Special provision is made, however, in an Order-in-Council dated 15th September, 1911, for the trial of accused persons at Lautoka, wherein it is provided, *inter alia,* that any cause triable at the Central Criminal Court by a jury shall be triable in the Circuit Court by the Chief Justice with four assessors.

In ordinary cases two assessors sit with the Chief Justice; in capital cases there must not be less than four assessors. With certain exceptions male residents, of an age between 21 and 60, with a competent knowledge of English, are liable to be called as jurymen and assessors.

In capital cases, sentence of death is pronounced by the Chief Justice. It is laid down in section 36 of Ordinance 6 of 1875 that the Chief Justice shall forward to the Governor a copy of his notes of evidence taken at the trial with a report containing

* Cf. Ordinance No. 16 of 1932.

Digitized by Google

any recommendations or observations he may think fit to make. The Governor, after considering the report in Executive Council, communicates the terms of his decision to the Chief Justice, who causes the tenor and substance to be entered in the Court records. The Governor in these cases issues either a death warrant, an order for sentence of death to be commuted, or a pardon.

On the Civil side, the Supreme Court has unlimited jurisdiction within the Colony, and is governed in its practice by the Rules of the Supreme Court, 1933, which adopt, with certain modifications, the Rules of the Supreme Court of England. The Civil Procedure Rules have been supplemented in special matters by other Rules, the chief of which are:—The Bankruptcy Rules, 1890, Admission of Barristers and Solicitors Rules, 1883, and Divorce Rules, 1933.

Provision is made for obtaining evidence for foreign Courts and Tribunals under Rules made in 1908, and service out of the jurisdiction and of foreign process within the jurisdiction are covered by Rules made in 1912.

The ordinary sittings of the Supreme Court are held in Suva and are three in number, Michaelmas Term beginning on 1st October, Easter Term on the 1st March, and Trinity Term commencing on the Monday following Whitsun week.

The only appeal from the Supreme Court is to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

The Courts of Summary Jurisdiction, both Criminal and Civil, are, in the country districts, presided over by the District Commissioners to whom the various districts are assigned, and in Suva by the Chief Police Magistrate. Broadly speaking, the powers of these officers are confined to dealing with minor offences on the Criminal side with power to inflict a maximum penalty of six months' imprisonment, while on the Civil side the Summary Procedure Rules of 1916 limit their jurisdiction as Commissioners of the Supreme Court to claims of value less than £50.

District Commissioners exercise Criminal jurisdiction and also Civil jurisdiction, as Commissioners, within the limits of the magisterial districts to which they are appointed or in which they are acting. District Commissioners also conduct the preliminary investigations in all indictable cases, the procedure being laid down in Ordinance No. 3 of 1876. Appeal from decisions of those inferior Courts to the Supreme Court is governed by Ordinance No. 22 of 1934. Appeals to the Supreme Court from decisions of Commissioners in Civil matters are provided for under the Summary Procedure Rules, 1916, in

Digitized by Google

all cases in which any judgment or order is pronounced for or in respect of any sum or matter at issue above the amount or value of £10.

Administration in the districts is supplemented by the Native Regulations which provide for the establishment of Courts having jurisdiction over natives of the Colony only. The most recent edition of these Regulations was brought into force by Proclamation in September, 1928. The Courts constituted under the Native Affairs Ordinance, 1876, and these Regulations, are of two kinds. First, there are the Provincial Courts, composed of the European Magistrate (District Commissioner) sitting with the Native Stipendiary Magistrate, and dealing with matters under the Native Courts Code, 1927, and the other Regulations passed by the Native Regulation Board to govern the life of the natives in accordance with their customs and their communal social system and their system of land-tenure. These Courts are given minor criminal and civil powers over natives, and can hear petitions for divorce from natives but cannot pronounce decrees, the documents in each case being forwarded to the Chief Justice for actual decision. Secondly, there is the District Court, presided over by the Native Stipendiary Magistrate sitting alone, whose jurisdiction is limited to petty offences amongst natives involving a maximum penalty of 40s. or imprisonment for two months, and in Civil matters having jurisdiction where the sum of money or the value of the property claimed does not exceed 80s.

Provision is made for appeals from the District Court to the Provincial Court and from the Provincial Court to the Supreme Court.

There were 33 criminal cases (comprising 49 counts) heard at the sessions during 1936. The indictments comprised the following charges:—

Horse and cattle stealing...	6
Breaking and entering	6
Forgery	4
Larceny	4
Embezzlement	3
Indecent crimes	2
Murder	1
Manslaughter	1
Possession of opium	1
Assault	1
Bigamy	1
Kidnapping	1
Miscellaneous	2
	33

Digitized by Google

One hundred and fourteen civil matters were instituted in the Civil Division at the Central Registry, composed as follows:—

Actions for recovery of moneys lent	33
Moneys due under Mortgage, Lien and Bill of Sale ...	20
Goods sold and delivered...	17
Summonses and Petitions under Land (Transfer and Registration) Ordinance 1933...	7
Originating Summonses	6
Actions for possession of land	5
Specific performance	3
Actions for damages	3
Actions for recovery of rent	3
Injunctions	2
Habeas Corpus	1
Admission of Barristers	1
Actions for damages for libel	1
Mandamus	1
Moneys due on accounts	1
Miscellaneous	10
	114

Thirty-three petitions were filed in the Divorce Court in which three Europeans, five half-castes, and 25 Indians were concerned. There were 85 petitions for divorce by native Fijians and Rotumans.

Forty-four grants of probate, 23 Letters of Administration and 23 orders to reseal Colonial and other grants were made in the Probate jurisdiction. The gross value of the estates concerned in these grants was £77,962 18s. 1d. Six bankruptcy petitions came before the Bankruptcy Court. There was one application for admission as a barrister and solicitor during the year. There are now 20 European and four Indian practitioners in the Colony.

Six civil appeals and 19 criminal appeals were entered for hearing.

A comparative table of cases heard in the various divisions of the Supreme Court from 1931 to 1935 is given below:—

Year.	*Civil.*	*Divorce.*	*Native Divorce.*	*Criminal.*	*Bankruptcy.*	*Civil Appeal.*	*Criminal Appeal.*	*Grants of Probate, etc.*
1932	106	16	79	52	4	2	4	82
1933	103	15	67	35	–	2	12	89
1934	97	22	73	45	2	–	9	101
1935	119	26	85	44	10	–	8	87
1936	114	33	85	33	6	6	19	90

Police.

COMPOSITION.

The Fiji Constabulary consists of a mixed force of Fijians and Indians, officered by Europeans. The Headquarters of the Force are at Suva.

Digitized by Google

STRENGTH.

On the 31st December, 1936, the authorized strength of the Constabulary was:—

Europeans.

Inspector-General	1
Deputy Inspector-General	1
District Inspectors	5
Sub-Inspectors, 1st Grade	4
Sub-Inspectors, 2nd Grade	7

Fijians.

Non-Commissioned Officers	22
Constables	89

Indians.

Non-Commissioned Officers	13
Constables	75

ARMAMENT AND TRAINING.

The Force is armed with S.M.L.E. Mk. III rifle; all recruits undergo a course of training in police duties before being posted as constables.

Special constables under the command of the Inspector-General may be called upon when necessary in cases of tumult or riot.

There are 26 detachments distributed throughout the Colony. In those districts where there are no European officers the detachments come under the supervision of the District Commissioners.

EXPENDITURE.

The total cost of the Force was £24,505 0s. 5d., being a rate per head of population of 29·64 pence.

CRIME.

The number of persons prosecuted for offences of all kinds was 2,318, classified as follows:—

Offences against the person	187
Offences against property	198
Other offences, mainly against revenue laws.	1,889
Committed for Trial by Supreme Court :—	
Offences against the person	20
Offences against property	21
Other offences	3

Digitized by Google

TRAFFIC.

The Constabulary control traffic in the Colony and carry out the registration and licensing of motor vehicles and drivers. The total number of motor vehicles registered for 1936 was 1,676 made up as follows:—

Motor cars for private use	667
Public motor cars	248
Lorries for private use	313
Public charabancs	341
Motor cycles	107

Seven hundred and seventy persons were convicted of offences against the Traffic Ordinance and Regulations.

Heavy motor vehicles exceeding 2½ tons gross weight unladen and the use of motor vehicles having a loaded weight of more than six tons are prohibited, as the existing roads, many of which have no proper stone foundations, are lightly constructed; and road bridges are mostly designed for a rolling load of 10 tons.

Prisons.

The control of prisons in this Colony is under Ordinance No. 7 of 1913 vested in the Superintendent of Prisons, subject to the orders of the Governor.

The main central gaol is situated at Suva, of which the Superintendent of Prisons is also Superintendent. This gaol is an up-to-date establishment, prisoners are confined in modern buildings of brick and concrete, with separate cells for each prisoner, there is adequate ventilation and light. All buildings are lighted by electricity.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

The industries established for vocational training are tin-smithing, blacksmithing, tailoring, awning and canvas works, carpentry and bakery. There is also an electrical sawing plant. All industries are under direct supervision of European overseers.

HEALTH OF PRISONERS.

The gaol infirmary is of modern construction and well equipped. An Indian medical practitioner is in residence and acts under the direct supervision of a European visiting medical officer who visits three times weekly.

Health of prisoners during the year has been exceptionally good.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

Prisoners are supplied with religious instruction according to their various religions.

Digitized by Google

Juvenile Offenders.

Juvenile offenders are detained on the island of Makaluva, a sandy atoll some seven miles from Suva, under the care of a European officer under the direction of the Superintendent of Prisons. There is a Board of Visitors.

Classification of Prisoners.

First Class.—Debtors, persons confined for contempt, persons committed under civil process, or failure to find sureties to keep the peace.

Second Class.—Prisoners awaiting trial or under remand.

Third Class.—Prisoners under sentence of imprisonment only.

Fourth Class.—Prisoners sentenced to penal servitude or imprisoned with hard labour.

Staff.

The Gaoler and Overseers at the central gaol are Europeans as also are the Superintendents in charge of Provincial gaols. The subordinate staff consists of Fijians and Indians.

Corporal Punishment.

During the year there were two cases of corporal punishment inflicted by caning.

XIV.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The system of Native Administration makes practical use of the Communal System and is regulated by the Native Regulation Code. These provide for the carrying out of all communal duties, such as housebuilding, village sanitation, cultivation of food crops, maintenance of communal property, care of the sick, control of infectious diseases and many other matters of public benefit. These also provide for the levying of rates to defray the cost of the provincial administration. The constitution of the various Councils is provided for in these Regulations. These Councils are the Council of Chiefs of Fiji, which sits every two years, the Provincial Councils which sit annually, and the District Councils which sit monthly. These Councils pass resolutions which when they have the approval of the Governor are enforceable. The Provincial Councils are composed of native officials and representatives elected by the District Councils and are presided over by the Secretary for Native Affairs or such officer as may be appointed by the Governor. These Councils have power with regard to their respective provinces similar to those enjoyed by District Councils, and also elect representatives to the Great Council of Chiefs. The Council of Chiefs is composed of Native Chiefs, Chiefs nominated by the Governor and representatives elected by the Provincial Councils. The Council of Chiefs also nominates Chiefs

Digitized by Google

from whom the Governor selects the Fijian representatives for the Legislative Council. The Native Regulations are administered by Native Magistrates in special Native Courts and deal with infringements and offences. This system of Native Councils and Courts provides the Fijians with a fair measure of self-government, and ensures an adequate representation of the wishes and aspirations of the natives.

The Great Council of Chiefs met during the year and passed thirty resolutions which covered a wide field—the most important of which was the following:—"That in the opinion of this Council, it is in the best interests of the Native race, that all lands (including leases) not required for the maintenance of the Fijian owners be opened for settlement; that to further this end a Committee be appointed to inquire into and determine the amount of land needed for the proper development by the Native owners; and that all land (including leases) not so required be handed over to the Government to lease on behalf of the Fijians."

Medical care is given by European Medical Officers and Nurses, Native Medical Practitioners and Native Obstetric Nurses distributed throughout the Group, and is well fitted to cope with epidemics of which there were several during the year. Dysentery and measles took a heavy toll of the young life. Mumps also was very prevalent.

Child Welfare Work was continued but the results of this campaign amongst the native mothers are not quickly evident. There are five European Infant Welfare Nurses stationed throughout the Colony and a sixth nurse, who is in charge of the hospital at Taveuni, gives valuable assistance on that island. There are in addition to the Europeans, 14 Native Child Welfare Nurses stationed in various parts of the Group. This staff is assisted by voluntary workers in various places and by Women's Committees in every province. The control of this organization is in the hands of a Central Executive Committee consisting of the Secretary for Native Affairs as Chairman, the Director of Medical Services and the District Commissioner, Rewa. District Committees under the Chairmanship of the District Commissioner have been formed in each district.

On the 26th April a census of the population was taken, and the figures revealed that the total Fijian population was 97,651, and had increased since 1921 by 13,176. The total number of births during the year was 3,715 (equal to a rate of 37·80 per 1,000 of the population). The total deaths were 2,755 (or 28·03 per 1,000). The increase of births over deaths during the year was 960.

Educational work is now largely in the hands of the Provincial Administration in place of the missionaries. Government assists by grants-in-aid where the school employs registered teachers.

Digitized by Google

The necessary finances are provided through the Native Administration—in some cases by levies and in others by voluntary subscriptions. For higher education a few boys are sent away to Australia or New Zealand by their parents and in certain cases assistance is given by the Government or the Province.

There is now a definite movement amongst the Fijians themselves to cultivate the soil. Every opportunity is being taken by the Administration to encourage and foster this feeling as it is in the cultivation of their lands that the future prosperity of the Fijians ultimately lies. With this object in view, education with an agricultural bias is being fostered.

There was a serious localized hurricane which devastated a few of the islands in the southern part of the Lau Group. Those islands rely entirely on coconuts as a means of revenue and payment of rates and taxes and the people were given famine relief.

The total exports of copra amounted to 34,581 tons valued at £406,393. Approximately two-thirds of this is produced by Fijians.

The export of bananas overseas was as follows:—

	Cases.
To New Zealand	158,009
,, Canada	9,477
,, Australia	1,493
Total	168,979

Of the above amount 90·2 per cent. was produced by Fijian growers as compared with 85·4 per cent. in 1935.

In 1936, the native tax payable to Government was reduced from £16,000 to £10,000 and was amalgamated with the Provincial Rate to facilitate payment. This new combined rate is now paid to the Provincial Funds in the usual way and the Province makes a direct payment to Government.

The amount of Provincial Revenue for 1936 was £37,346 6s. 11d. while expenditure amounted to £35,120 7s. 9d.

XV.—INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Vital Statistics and Allied Questions.

The Census which was taken on the 26th April showed the Indian population of the Colony to be 85,002, which falls short of the estimate for the 31st December, 1935, by 890, but exceeds the figure of the last census, taken in 1921, by 24,368.

The proportion of females to males had risen from a ratio of 6·5 to 10 in 1921 to a ratio of 7·2 to 10 in 1936. The adjustment

Digitized by Google

of the sex ratio is a gradual process and conditions still demand the strict control of the immigration of single males.

During 1936, 3,484 Indian births were registered, being a birth-rate of 40·15 per 1,000 and 1,069 deaths, giving a death-rate of 12·32 per 1,000. The excess of births over deaths was 2,414 and the estimated population on the 31st December was 86,778.

The Census reveals the interesting fact that approximately 61,000 of the 85,000 Indians were born in the Colony. The census showed that there are 70,989 Hindus, 11,290 Moslems, 1,068 Sikhs, and 1,655 Christians.

Immigration and Emigration.

During 1936, 650 Indians arrived in the Colony, being 463 males and 187 females. During the same period there were 513 departures, being 404 males and 109 females. Immigration for the year therefore exceeded emigration by 137. There has been no change in the policy of restricting immigration from India, and in the present circumstances none is indicated. There is no tendency for genuine plantation labourers to come to the Colony from India.

The majority of immigrants, and of applicants for immigration permits, in recent years have been Gujeratis and Punjabis, the actual classification of arrivals by the last direct steamer being as follows:—

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
Punjabis	88	44	132
Gujeratis	271	100	371
Calcuttans	24	10	34
Madrasis	22	19	41
	405	173	578

The position regarding repatriation remains unchanged with the number fixed at between 100 and 200, those returning being either aged persons returning to spend their remaining days in India, or younger people availing themselves of the concession of a free passage one way to take a holiday in India. The s.s. *Ganges* made her usual round voyage between India and Fiji and all Government passengers, who numbered 171 in 1936, were sent in her.

Destitution.

Little destitution and practically no poverty are found among Indians in Fiji. The Government maintains a Poor House which is situated near Suva, for the benefit of those Indians who, by reason of old age or other infirmity, are incapable of earning their livelihood. There is also in force a system of outdoor relief which is intended to subsidize friends and relatives and encourage a spirit of self-help in the community. Fifty-two persons were in receipt of out-door relief during 1936.

Digitized by Google

The position as regards Indians maintained on a permanent basis in Government institutions was as follows:—

	Men.	*Women.*	*Boys.*	*Girls.*	*Total on 31st December.*
Poor House ...	13	4	1	–	18
Mental Hospital ...	40	18	–	–	58
Leper Station Makongai.	137	44	12	6	199

Economic, Social and Political.

The year was favourable to the agriculturist, and the Indian cane growers produced 997,008 tons which they sold to the Colonial Sugar Refining Company for £743,645, or an average price of 14s. 11d. per ton. There are now 23,062 acres leased by the Company to their tenants, while a further 22,166 acres of land under cultivation with sugar-cane is held by Indians in the form of Native leases or otherwise. The average yield per acre for the Company's tenants was 24·2 tons, as compared with 19·8 tons for the independent growers. Indian agriculturists will benefit greatly from the decision of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company to embark on the pineapple industry.

The improvement in the standard of the domestic life of Indians has been well maintained. The community continues to show increasing understanding of the advantage of legal marriage, and 903 Indian marriages were registered in 1936. The year was noteworthy for a gratifying absence of sectarian disputes.

General.

The Reverend C. F. Andrews came to Fiji at the invitation of the Indian Association of Fiji on the 5th May, 1936, and remained in the Colony until the 4th June. He had not visited Fiji since 1917, and on the occasion of his present visit he devoted the whole of the short time at his disposal to investigating the present position of Indians in Fiji in all walks of life. Mr. Andrews commented favourably on the improvements that have taken place, and gave helpful advice on education and other social matters. He was followed on the 27th August, 1936, by Mr. Kodando Rao of the Servants of India Society, whose stay of approximately six weeks was devoted to a general investigation of the condition of Indians in Fiji.

XVI.—LEGISLATION.

Thirteen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during 1936, of which the following are the principal:—

The Boxing and Wrestling Contests Ordinance provides a measure of control over all boxing and wrestling contests in the Colony. The Ordinance is based on legislation of New Zealand.

Digitized by Google

The Post Office Ordinance replaces the Postal Ordinance, 1877, which had long called for revision, in such a way as to provide for modern requirements and to ensure that the rules of the Universal Postal Convention are being complied with in this Colony.

The United Kingdom Designs (Protection) Ordinance provides in effect that the registered proprietor of any design registered in the United Kingdom under the Patents and Designs Acts, 1907 to 1932, shall enjoy in the Colony all the rights he enjoys under the United Kingdom Acts. This Ordinance repeals the Designs Ordinance, 1933, by which provision was made for the local registration of designs and also the registration of United Kingdom designs at a reduced fee because it was found in practice that this form of legislation was not required.

The Stamp Duties (Amendment) Ordinance makes several amendments to the Stamp Duties Ordinance, 1920. The most important is that made in respect of the duty on agreements or contracts for sale which were previously liable to 4s. stamp duty only. Under this Ordinance certain of these agreements or contracts are made liable for *ad valorem* stamp duty as if they were transfers on sale. When a transfer is made in pursuance of such agreement duly stamped with *ad valorem* stamp duty, however, the transfer will not be liable to any further duty but the fact that full duty has been paid will be endorsed thereon.

Particulars of Factory Legislation, Compensation for Accidents Legislation, and Legislative Provisions for Sickness, Old Age, etc.

The Steam Boilers Ordinance, 1915, provides for compensation for accidents to persons in connection with steam boilers.

The Minimum Wage Ordinance, 1935, empowers the Governor in Council to fix a minimum wage for any occupation either generally or in any district if he is satisfied that the wages for that occupation are unreasonably low.

XVII.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The progress of the Colony is shown by the following figures:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Assets.*	*Liabilities.*	*Excess of Assets over Liabilities.*
	£	£	£	£	£
1927 ...	586,574	534,939	898,491	881,752	16,739
1928 ...	709,534	567,845	597,903	439,475	158,428
1929 ...	677,945	642,124	557,043	362,794	194,249
1930 ...	638,763	645,291	408,971	221,250	187,721
1931 ...	565,393	605,973	452,080	304,940	147,140
1932 ...	547,461	528,604	449,743	283,746	165,997
1933 ...	605,201	569,984	590,660	389,446	201,214
1934 ...	782,914	722,963	770,343	509,178	261,165
1935 ...	733,432	641,181	857,694	504,278	353,416
1936 ...	796,630	677,152	898,373	425,479	472,894

Digitized by Google

At the close of the year 1922 the Colony had an accumulated deficit on Revenue Account of £243,481, and at the close of 1929 there was an accumulated surplus of £194,249. This surplus was reduced to £147,140 at the end of 1931, but increased at the end of 1936 to £472,894.

Debt.

The Loan Debt of the Colony on the 31st December, 1936, was as under:—

	£
Specific Loan (Ordinance No. 7 of 1928)	765,000
Public Purposes Loan (Ordinance No. 2 of 1929) ...	171,408
Public Works Loan (Ordinance No. 14 of 1932) ...	154,996
Public Works Loan (Ordinance No. 51 of 1930 and Ordinance No. 17 of 1934).	182,497
Total (sterling)	£1,273,901

The loan of £765,000 was raised in London during the year 1928 and is redeemable between 1946-53. The stock bears interest at 5 per cent. and was issued at 101.

A second loan sufficient to produce £170,000 was authorised in 1929. It was arranged that it should be in the form of a direct loan to be provided by the Crown Agents for the Colonies and is redeemable in 1955. During that year, £80,204 was made available for public purposes and the balance was provided in 1930. The loan bears interest at 5 per cent.

The Public Works Loan, sufficient to produce £160,000, was raised in 1932 by the Crown Agents in two instalments, on 2nd August and 3rd November, at the price of £102 and £105 respectively for each £100 of stock. This loan bears interest at 4 per cent., and sinking fund contribution is at the rate of 2·32 per cent. per annum. The stock is redeemable on 1st February, 1959.

The Rewa Bridge Loan of £75,000 authorized under Ordinance No. 51 of 1930 (as amended by Ordinance No. 11 of 1931 and Ordinance No. 5 of 1934) and the Public Works Loan of £105,000 authorized under Ordinance No. 17 of 1934 were raised as a single loan of £180,000 by the Crown Agents in November, 1934. Fiji Government Inscribed stock was created to the nominal value of £182,497 of which £120,000 was sold to the market at 99 and the balance was taken up by the Crown Agents at the same price on behalf of various Colonial Government funds. The annual rate of interest is 3 per cent. and the Sinking Fund contribution is at the rate of 1·56 per cent. per annum. The stock is redeemable on 1st December, 1970, with optional redemption, in whole or in part, on or after 1st December, 1960.

Digitized by Google

The sinking fund in connection with the Specific Loan amounted to £73,181 at the close of the year. A supplementary sinking fund for the redemption of any other loans raised now amounts to £25,336 Fiji. Provision for sinking fund contributions in respect of the Public Purposes Loan was first made in 1932, and amounted to £25,439 Fiji at the close of the year. The Sinking Fund in respect of the Public Works Loan, 1959, amounted to £16,961 Fiji at the close of the year, and for the Public Works Loan, 1960-70, to £6,419 Fiji.

Revenue.

The revenue of the year amounted to £796,630, an increase of £63,198 as compared with 1935. The main items of revenue grouped under their various heads are as follows:—

	£
Customs	462,007
Port, wharfage and light dues	28,226
Native taxes	12,923
Licences, excise and internal revenue not otherwise classified.	106,176
Fees of Court or Office, payments for specific purposes, and re-imbursements-in-aid.	68,447
Post Office	28,394
Rent of Government property	14,297
Interest	41,576
Miscellaneous	25,681
Land sales and premia on leases	351
Colonial Development Fund	6,085
Extraordinary Receipts	2,466

The amounts collected for licences, stamp duties, and income tax were £3,609, £5,019, and £31,207, respectively.

The amount collected under the Residential Tax Ordinance was £22,798. The rate is £1 per annum on all males (other than Fijians) between the ages of 18 and 60, with certain exemptions. All persons liable for the tax are required to register themselves and the tax must be paid to the Colonial Treasurer or a Sub-accountant by the end of March each year: penalties are imposed for failure to register and for non-payment of the tax. The Fijians pay two direct taxes, the Native Tax and the Provincial Rate, and are exempted from payment of the Residential Tax.

Customs Tariff.

The Customs tariff is in general on an *ad valorem* basis, duty being assessed on value of goods at the port of shipment. Practically all products of the British Empire receive preferential treatment. Where alternative rates are given the higher is charged.

Digitized by Google

On most articles subject to *ad valorem* duty the British preferential rate is 20 per cent. and the general rate 40 per cent. On imports subject to a specific rate of duty the general rate is usually 50 per cent. higher than the preferential rate, the principal exceptions being illuminating and power kerosene and benzine on which duties of 9d. and 8d. per gallon respectively are levied irrespective of the country of origin.

The following are some of the principal articles which, if of British manufacture, are admitted free of duty:—

Aircraft and accessories; certain specified educational material; articles for Boy Scouts and Girl Guides; bags and sacks over two bushels; cans and casks for use as containers of Fiji produce; coal and coke; Church furniture; infants' foods; muntz metal and copper sheathing; tar and bitumen; approved weedkillers; wire netting, galvanised, of not less than 4 in. mesh; wire galvanized fencing not less than 10 British gauge; fencing posts; gates; standards and droppers other than ornamental of iron or steel.

The above articles if of foreign manufacture pay duty at the rate of 20 per cent.

The following articles are admitted free of duty from all countries:—

Animals; birds and fish living; bacteriological products; ship's ballast; books; periodicals and music printed; coconuts, collections of antiques for public institutions; natural history specimens; containers used in the export of products of the Colony; copra; gas and ammonia cylinders; manures; crude and diesel oils; plants and seeds; used and unused postage stamps; and vessels being yachts the property of tourists visiting the Colony.

Machinery imported pays the following rates of duty:—

Agricultural implements and butter-making and milking machines pay 10 per cent. *ad valorem* if of British manufacture and 25 per cent. *ad valorem* if of foreign manufacture; agricultural machines; sugar-making machinery; fruit and meat canning machinery; engines, steam, oil or gas, marine or stationary; timber milling and sawing machinery; electric machinery and mining machinery pay the British preferential rate of 15 per cent. and the general rate of 30 per cent. *ad valorem*.

The following are some of the principal articles that are admitted at specific rates of duty:—

Ale and beer in bottles, 2s. 6d. a gallon British preferential rate, 4s. 6d. a gallon general rate; confectionery, 3d. a lb. plus 10 per cent. British preferential rate

Digitized by Google

and 6d. a lb. plus 30 per cent. general rate; cornflour, 1d. a lb. and 1½d. a lb.; cinema films free British preferential rate and 3d. per 100 feet general rate; flour, 40s. per ton of 2,000 lb. British preferential rate, 60s. per ton general rate; Sharps, 30s. per ton British preferential rate, 50s. per ton general rate; dried ginger, 1d. a lb. and 1¾d. a lb.; matches wooden, in boxes containing not more than 60 matches, British preferential rate per gross boxes, 4s. 6d., general rate 6s. 9d. per gross; hops 1s. a lb. and 2s. a lb.; maize, 6d. a bushel and 10½d. a bushel; malt extract, non-spirituous, 1s. a lb. and 1s. 9d. a lb.; meats, 1d. per lb. and 2d. per lb.; oatmeal, 1d. per lb. and 1¾d. a lb.; soap, plain, 1d. a lb. and 2d. a lb.; spices, 2d. a lb. and 3½d. a lb.; tea, 6d. a lb. containing no less than 75 per cent. British growth and 9d. a lb.; tobacco, manufactured, 7s. and 10s. 6d. a lb.; cigars, 9s. and 13s. 6d. a lb.; cigarettes, 8s. and 12s. a lb.; timber, rough, 2s. and 4s. per 100 superficial feet; timber, dressed, 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d. per 100 superficial feet; spirits, 26s. and 39s. a gallon; wines, still, 4s. and 6s. a gallon; wines, sparkling, 10s. and 15s. a gallon; macaroni and vermicelli, 2d. a lb. and 3½d. a lb.

The following are the principal articles which are subject to alternative rates of duty:—

Bicycles, preferential rate 15s. each or *ad valorem* 20 per cent. whichever rate returns the higher duty. General rate 30s. each or 40 per cent.

Boots and shoes, rubber and canvas, British preferential rate 6d. to 1s. per pair according to sizes or 20 per cent. *ad valorem*. General rate 1s. 7½d. to 2s. 1½d. or 40 per cent.

Textile piece-goods, British preferential rate 1d. to 3d. per yard according to width or 20 per cent. General rate 2d. to 6d. or 40 per cent.

Hats and caps, of all kinds, British preferential rate 6d. each or 20 per cent., general rate 1s. or 40 per cent.

Shirts, including blouses, jumpers, cardigans, jerseys, pullovers, sweaters, and similar garments, British preferential rate 4s. to 6s. per dozen or 20 per cent., general rate 8s. to 12s. or 40 per cent.

Singlets or undervests, sizes up to 28 inches, per dozen, 1s. preferential rate, general rate 2s., sizes exceeding 28 inches per dozen, 2s. preferential rate and 4s. general rate; or *ad valorem* 20 per cent. preferential rate, 40 per cent. general rate, whichever rate returns the higher duty.

Digitized by Google

Towels, bath and face, exceeding 24 inches in length, British preferential rate 2s. per dozen or 20 per cent., general rate 4s. or 40 per cent.

Umbrellas, parasols and sunshades, each, British preferential rate 6d., general rate 1s., or *ad valorem* 20 per cent., 40 per cent., whichever rate returns the higher duty.

Electric lamp bulbs, incandescent filament, having at the marked voltage, a power consumption—

Not exceeding 8 watts, each, British preferential rate 1d., general rate 2d.

Exceeding 8 watts and not exceeding 80 watts each, British preferential rate 2d., general rate 4d. Exceeding 80 watts, each, British preferential rate 3d., general rate 6d., or *ad valorem* 20 per cent., 40 per cent., whichever rate returns the higher duty.

Wrapping paper, British preferential rate 5s. per cwt. or 20 per cent., general rate 8s. 9d. or 40 per cent.

Spirits, perfumed and scented waters, British preferential rate 26s. and 10 per cent. per liquid gallon or 20 per cent., general rate 39s. per gallon and 25 per cent., or 40 per cent.

The tariff in general is a revenue tariff but aims at fostering, as far as possible, local industries, and in this regard affords protection to the rice industry by imposing a duty of £2 per ton under the British preferential rate and £3 per ton under the foreign rate, and provides, further, that if the cost, duty paid and landed at a Customs shed at a port of entry in the Colony, falls below £15 per ton, the duty shall be increased by such amount as shall bring such landed cost duty paid to £15 per ton. It provides, further, for the admission free of duty of bags and sacks over two bushels of British origin.

Protection is also afforded to the local butter industry by the imposition of a duty of 4d. per pound on all fresh butter imported and provides for the admission free of duty of boxes of wood made up or in shooks of British origin to be used as containers of butter the produce of the Colony.

The soap industry is also protected by a duty of 1d. per pound under the British preferential rate and 2d. per pound under the general tariff rate on soap, laundry, in bar or cake, and sandsoap, and, with a view to affording further assistance to this industry the tariff was recently amended providing for the admission free of duty of resin and tallow of British manufacture, which previously paid a duty of 20 per cent. and 10 per cent. respectively.

Digitized by Google

XVIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

LAND.

Before the British occupation of Fiji, European settlers had acquired large areas of land from the Native Chiefs, and, after the Deed of Cession, Crown grants for land, on claims substantiated before the Lands Commission, were issued. In this manner 414,615 acres were alienated.

By the year 1912, Crown grants for a further area of 20,184 acres of land purchased from the Natives had been issued, but in that year the sale of Native lands, except to the Government for specific purposes, was prohibited.

The standard tenure of land is leasehold up to 99 years for leases for agricultural purposes, 75 years for building purposes, and 21 years with option of renewal for a further period of 21 years, subject to reassessment of the rental, for leases for pastoral purposes. The rent for an agricultural leasehold for the maximum period of 99 years is subject to reassessment in the 33rd and 66th years, or in the 30th and 60th years in the case of a lease for less than the maximum period. In leases for building purposes the rent is subject to reassessment in the 25th and 50th years. In all cases the rent is subject to reassessment to a maximum not exceeding 5 per cent. of the unimproved capital value of the land. Lessees of expiring leaseholds of native-owned land are afforded a considerable measure of security of continuance of tenure by legislation which provides that, in the event of refusal of the native owners, without just cause, to surrender control of the land for renewal of an expiring lease, the Governor in Council may require the native owners to agree to renew the lease or to pay such amount of compensation as the Governor in Council may decide to be the reasonable value of the permanent and unexhausted improvements made on the leasehold by the lessee.

Leases of Crown lands are submitted as a rule to public auction, usually with the upset premium of £2 to cover the cost of advertising the auction sale. Leases of small areas in country districts are exempt from sale by public auction. Instructions for survey are issued by the Crown Surveyor on payment of the survey fees by the lessee, who is then entitled to enter into occupation.

The rent of land in Fiji varies according to situation and quality. Pasturable lands vary from 1d. to 2s. per acre, coconut lands from 6d. to 5s., hill land from 6d. to 2s., banana, sugar-cane, rice, and maize land from 5s. to £1, the latter rental prevailing only in certain favoured localities in which supply and demand have resulted in that high rent.

Digitized by Google

The following statement shows the position as regards land alienated at the end of the year 1936:—

Nature of title.	*No. of title.*	*Area.*	*No. of lots.*	*Estimated. area.*	*Total.*	*Total area of Colony.*
		Acres.		*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*
Freehold ...	1,596	532,638	—	—	532,638	—
Leases of Crown Lands.	815	21,555	72	997	22,552	—
Leases of Native Lands.	7,955	300,847	295	7,174	308,021	—
					863,211	4,523,620

Six hundred and seventy-nine applications for leases of native lands aggregating 12,079 acres were received during the year. Of these 291 applications for 3,468 acres were approved and 296 applications for 6,853 acres were under consideration at the end of the year. Applications by Indians formed 89 per cent. of the total. One hundred and fifty-one applications for leases of Crown Lands aggregated 6,766 acres. Of these 53 applications for 4,046 acres were approved and 79 applications for 1,393 acres were under consideration at the end of the year, the remainder having been declined or withdrawn.

Native Lands Commission.

The Native Lands Commission, which operates under the Native Lands Ordinance, 1905, is charged with the duty of ascertaining what lands in each Province of the Colony are the rightful and hereditary property of Native Fijian owners, and whether the ownership is by Matanggali (a tribal division) or by some other division or subdivision of the people.

The Commission consists of a European chairman, and two Native chiefs of high rank. The clerical staff is composed entirely of Native officers and the official language of the Commission is Fijian.

The members of the Commission are vested with powers to summon and examine on oath any persons whom they think are able to give relevant evidence, and to require the attendance of all claimants to any land the title of which is being inquired into, and of all persons likely to be interested in such land.

Any appeal against any decision of the Native Lands Commission, provided notice of appeal is lodged within sixty days of the announcement of the decision, is heard and determined by the Governor in Council, whose decision is final. If no notice of desire to appeal is given, the record of the decision is conclusive.

Digitized by Google

All lands recorded by the Commission as the rightful and hereditary property of Native Fijians are surveyed by a staff of surveyors especially employed for the purpose. The cost of the survey is borne by the proprietary unit owning the land, and is assessed on a scale prepared by the Crown Surveyor and approved by the Governor in Council. The law requires that the cost of survey shall be paid within six months after demand; but if it is proved to the satisfaction of the Governor that any proprietary unit is unable to pay, the Governor is empowered to make such order as may seem fit and just.

The Commission completed the preparation of supplementary registers containing the names of land-owners of illegitimate birth in the provinces of Thakaundrove, Mathuata and Lomaiviti. Ratu Sukuna, conjointly with his duties as District Commissioner, continued enquiries in the province of Lau. The preparation of the various registers of Native lands and Native land-owners was continued by the office staff of the Commission.

SURVEY.

The temporary survey staff attached to the Native Lands Commission was further reduced during the year by the termination of the appointments of six officers and by the transfer of another officer, in a temporary capacity, to a post on the staff of the Lands and Survey Department. The effective strength during 1936 was three European surveyors and three native assistants. Surveyors were employed in the provinces of Tailevu and Tholo North and in the Yasawa Islands in the province of Lautoka. The area surveyed during the year amounted to 53,875 acres, bringing the total area surveyed for the Native Lands Commission since 1912 to 3,539,307 acres.

The strength of the survey staff of the Lands and Survey Department was increased to six officers. Three senior members of the staff were continuously employed in administrative work at headquarters, in the examination of plans and in miscellaneous surveys in Suva including alignment surveys for the Suva Town Board. The remaining members of the staff were employed in country districts in the survey of leased lands, the design and subdivision of Indian settlements, contour and detail surveys for proposed townships and other miscellaneous work. Instructions for the survey of leases of native and Crown lands were issued by the Crown Surveyor to seven surveyors in private practice. Four hundred and thirty-six plans of surveys made by Government and private surveyors were examined and passed for issue of leases.

Meteorological.

Meteorological observations were taken twice daily at Suva throughout the year at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., Local Standard Time. A summary of these observations is set out in the table below.

Digitized by Google

Summary of Meteorological Observations at Suva—Fiji.

1936.

Months.	Mean pressure in Inches. (Corrected to 32° F., 45° Lat. and M.S.L. (8 a.m. and 2 p.m.)	Air Temperature F.											Mean Percentage of Relative Humidity (Saturation = 100).		Total Rainfall (Inches).	Sunshine (Hours and Tenths).		Mean hourly wind velocity.
		Mean Dry Bulb.		Mean Wet Bulb.		Means of		Mean.	Absolute Max. and Min.							Total.	Mean.	
						Max.	Min.		Max.	Date.	Min.	Date.						
		8 a.m.	2 p.m.	8 a.m.	2 p.m.								8 a.m.	2 p.m.				
January ...	29·759	80·3	83·7	76·3	77·4	86·6	75·6	81·1	92	26	70	7	80·3	75·2	9·38	192·6	6·2	7·2
February ...	29·758	81·2	86·2	77·2	79·0	87·7	76·3	82·0	91	20	73	Var.	82·6	72·0	9·14	224·2	7·7	7·6
March ...	29·797	80·4	85·6	76·8	78·7	88·2	75·2	81·7	94	24	73	8, 22	84·3	73·3	11·56	205·2	6·6	5·9
April ...	29·818	80·2	85·6	76·2	77·9	87·4	74·6	81·0	93	18	72	Var.	82·9	70·3	7·60	204·2	6·8	6·4
May ...	29·864	75·8	79·6	73·1	74·8	81·4	72·4	76·9	89	7	67	29	87·7	80·0	25·63	87·9	2·8	7·9
June ...	29·985	73·4	78·1	69·2	70·9	79·6	69·4	74·5	86	29	65	26, 27	80·3	69·2	3·42	160·9	5·4	8·1
July ...	29·976	73·0	77·5	69·3	71·2	79·0	69·9	74·5	86	1	66	6, 7	82·5	72·6	3·37	128·3	4·1	8·4
August ...	29·928	73·0	77·9	68·7	70·3	79·4	68·3	73·8	85	1	63	6	79·6	67·2	3·03	196·8	6·3	7·1
September	29·976	73·3	77·2	69·2	70·5	78·8	69·1	73·9	86	28	64	6	80·4	71·0	7·03	123·8	4·1	7·5
October ...	29·918	76·4	79·6	72·8	74·2	81·4	70·6	76·0	89	11	65	2	83·5	77·1	27·31	178·0	5·7	8·0
November...	29·814	78·8	82·4	73·4	74·7	84·3	72·7	78·5	91	23	67	8	77·1	68·9	10·40	239·2	8·0	7·9
December ...	29·836	79·5	83·4	73·7	75·1	84·5	73·7	79·1	88	31	67	5	75·8	67·3	12·06	227·5	7·3	8·1
Year ...	29·869	77·1	81·4	73·0	74·6	83·2	72·3	77·75	—	—	—	—	81·6	72·0	129·93	2,168·6	5·9	7·5

Digitized by Google

Rainfall for the year 1936 was 10·23 inches in excess of normal (119·70 inches). The months May and October, 1936, were the wettest on record. From June to September a noticeable dry spell occurred. On the whole the weather during the year 1936 was much brighter and more pleasant than the three preceding years.

The following table gives the total rainfall at certain stations in Fiji during 1936 and the averages over a period of years:—

Station.	*No. of Years.*	*Total Rainfall.*	*Average Rainfall.*
Lakemba	11	79·27	75·13
Lambasa	42	79·90	81·82
Lautoka	36	62·44	69·61
Lawangga	30	52·99	69·63
Levuka	42	117·85	91·49
Nandarivatu	36	105·53	138·36
Nambouwalu	18	80·67	104·86
Rarawai	42	65·18	81·17
Salialevu	21	204·79	211·11
Suva	52	129·93	119·70
Vunindawa...	24	143·76	142·90
Wainunu	57	136·41	147·49

Rainfall was generally much below normal particularly during the months June to September during which period a number of stations reported no rain during some of these months. Excess of rainfall was mainly confined to the South-Eastern portion of Viti Levu (though some deficiencies occurred in this area) six stations in Lau and also Ngau and Vuna. November to April is the wet season, the remaining six months being comparatively dry.

A severe hurricane which originated near the Union Group passed through Southern Lau on 19th January. Winds of hurricane force were, however, confined to a small area. The Island of Komo appears to have suffered most. A small cyclone developed eastwards of Vanua Levu on 13th February, and moved in a S.S.E. direction through the Lau Group.

General.

His Excellency Sir A. G. Murchison Fletcher, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., proceeded on leave on 1st May, prior to his transfer to Trinidad, and Mr. C. J. J. T. Barton, O.B.E., Colonial Secretary, assumed duty as Acting Governor, and as Acting High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, and Dr. V. W. T. McGusty was appointed to act as Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Sir A. F. Richards, K.C.M.G., formerly Governor of Gambia, arrived in the Colony on 28th November, and assumed duty as Governor of Fiji and High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Digitized by Google

Mr. O. C. K. Corrie, M.C., formerly Senior Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Palestine, arrived in the Colony on 2nd July and assumed duty as Chief Justice.

Mr. C. J. J. T. Barton, O.B.E., formerly Principal Assistant Colonial Secretary, Kenya, arrived in the Colony on 6th March and assumed duty as Colonial Secretary.

News of the death of His Majesty King George V was received shortly before 1 p.m., local time, on 21st January. The Accession of His Majesty King Edward VIII was proclaimed on 23rd January, and on the same day was held a special meeting of the Legislative Council who passed resolutions of sympathy with the Royal Family and of loyalty to His Majesty King Edward VIII. The Accession of His Majesty King George VI was proclaimed in Fiji at 5.15 p.m. on Saturday, 12th December.

A short session of the Legislative Council was held in June, with two meetings on 24th and 25th June. At the session held in October, the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1937 were passed. Meetings were held on 23rd, 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st October.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX.

List of Publications which are of General Interest.

Title.	*Publisher or Agents.*	*Price*
Fiji and the Fijians. By Rev. T. Williams and Rev. J. Calvert.	Alexander Heylin, London. 1860. 2nd Edition (2 vols.)	6s.
Viti. By Berthold Seeman ...	Macmillan and Co., Ltd., London. 1862	10s.
King and People of Fiji. By Rev. J. Waterhouse.	Wesleyan Conference Office. 1866...	
Natives' Taxation and Communal System in Fiji.	Cmd. 2240—His Majesty's Stationery Office. 1904 ...	
The Fijians. By Basil Thomson ...	Heineman, London. 1905 ...	25s.
The Hill Tribes of Fiji. By A. B. Brewster.	Seely, Service and Co., Ltd., London. 1922	21s.
Journal of William Lockerby ...	Hakluyt Society, Cambridge University Press. 1925 ...	
Journal of Thomas Williams. By Professor G. C. Henderson.	Angus and Robertson, Ltd., Sydney. 2 vols. 1931 ...	
Fiji and Fijians, 1835–1856. By Professor G. C. Henderson.	Angus and Robertson, Ltd., Sydney, and The Australian Book Co., London... ...	25s.
The Discoverers of the Fiji Islands. By Professor G. C. Henderson.	Murray, London. 1933 ...	15s.

The following official publications can be obtained from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, London, S.W.1, or from the Government Printer, Suva.

The Colony of Fiji—Handbook, 1937 (when ready). Lib. edition. 3s. Mag. edition, 2s.

Annual Blue Book, 1936. 5s.

Census Report, 1936. 5s.

Forests of the Colony of Fiji—Report by Mr. R. A. Sykes (without maps). 2s.

Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer, 1936. 2s.

Annual Report of the Director of Agriculture, 1936. 1s.

The Agricultural Journal, published half-yearly or more frequently if required, is obtainable from the Director of Agriculture, Suva. 1s. per copy.

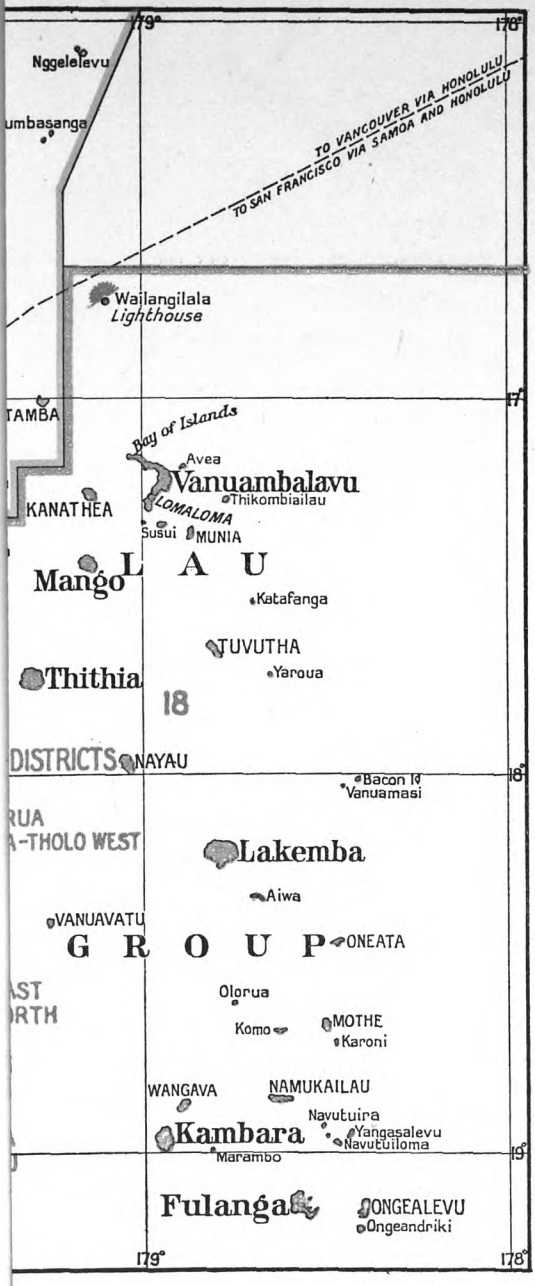
Postage is charged extra on all official publications.

A more complete bibliography will be found in "The Colony of Fiji—Handbook, 1937."

(45545—48) Wt. 2578—3914 600 12/37 P. St. G. 377/7

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or throu

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1833

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1832

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

STATE OF PERLIS
(Unfederated Malay States)

REPORT FOR THE YEAR A.H. 1355

(For Report for the year A.H. 1353 (16th April, 1934—4th April, 1935) see No. 1750 (Price 1s. 6d.), and for Report for the year A.H. 1354 (5th April, 1935—23rd March, 1936) see No. 1795 (Price 2s. 6d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

[LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN PERLIS)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses.
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 1s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1832

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

STATE OF PERLIS
(Unfederated Malay States)

REPORT FOR THE YEAR A.H. 1355

(For Report for the year A.H. 1353 (16th April, 1934—4th April, 1935) see No. 1750 (Price 1s. 6d.), and for Report for the year A.H. 1354 (5th April, 1935—23rd March, 1936) see No. 1795 (Price 2s. 6d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN PERLIS)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 1s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Brit. Soc. Pub.
Sutherland
2-18-38
15200

STATE OF PERLIS.

CONTENTS.

Chapter		Page
I.	GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY	1
	History	2
II.	GOVERNMENT	3
III.	POPULATION	4
IV.	MEDICAL AND HEALTH	4
	Prevailing Diseases	5
	Infantile Mortality	6
	Maternity	6
	Hygiene and Sanitation	6
	Estate Inspection	8
	School Inspection	8
	Hospital and Dispensaries	9
	Rabies	10
V.	HOUSING	10
VI.	PRODUCTION	12
	Mining	12
	Agriculture	13
	Rubber	14
	Coconuts	15
	Live Stock	16
	Forests	16
	Fisheries	17
VII.	COMMERCE	17
VIII.	LABOUR	19
	Wages and Cost of Living	19
IX.	EDUCATION	20

Digitized by Google

Chapter		Page
X.	COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT ...	24
	Sea Communication	25
	Railways	26
	Internal Communication	26
XI.	BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	26
XII.	PUBLIC WORKS	27
XIII.	JUSTICE AND POLICE	31
	Courts	31
	Police	34
	Prison	37
XIV.	LEGISLATION	38
XV.	PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION ...	41
	TABLE A.—Import Duties	41
	TABLE B.—I. Export Duties	44
	II. Forest Produce	45
	III. Live Stock	46
	IV. Minerals, Metals and Metalliferous Ores	46
	V. Marine Produce	46
	VI. Miscellaneous	47
	VII. Revenue and Expenditure	49
XVI.	MISCELLANEOUS	51
	Lands and Mines	51
	Re-organisation of the Land Office ...	55
	Surveys	55
	Forests	56
	Rubber Regulation	56
	Sanitary Board	56
	Co-Operative Societies	58
	Zakat and Fitrah	61
	General	61

Digitized by Google

PAGE CHAPTER PAGE

24 APPENDICES.

25 A.—STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ... 65

26

26 B.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE 66

26 C.—STATEMENT OF REVENUE COLLECTED IN THE YEARS A.H. 1354 AND 1355 67

27

31 D.—STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE INCURRED IN THE YEARS A.H. 1354 AND 1355 68

31 E.—SPECIMEN OF OLD TITLE DEED ISSUED FOR LAND

34 IN PERLIS. 69

7

8 F.—SPECIMEN OF OLD TITLE DEED ISSUED FOR LAND IN PERLIS 75

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

STATE OF PERLIS.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF PERLIS FOR THE YEAR A.H. 1355.

CHAPTER I

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

1. Perlis is a Malay State on the West Coast of the Malay Peninsula and is the northernmost of the Malay States under the protection of Great Britain. It lies between the 6th and 7th parallels of North Latitude. The State is bordered on the west by the sea and by a range of mountains running north and south and separating it from the Siamese Province of Setul; on the east by the Siamese Province of Nakon Sridhammaraj and the Malay State of Kedah; and on the south by Kedah. Padang Besar on the main railway trunk line to Bangkok is the frontier station between Malaya and Siam.

The area of the State is about 310 square miles and the coast line which runs north-west and south-east is approximately 13 miles in length.

The rich alluvial plain, which is suitable for rice growing, extends inland for a distance of about 14 miles. Striking features of the landscape are the isolated limestone hills rising abruptly from the plain, and in one of these at Chuping there is a remarkable large cave which is much visited.

The Perlis River is the only river of any size in the State and is navigable by small craft as far as the town of Kangar.

CLIMATE.

2. The State is subject to the influence of the North-East Monsoon from November to March, and of the South-West Monsoon between July and September.

Digitized by Google

The average annual rainfall at Kangar is about 83 inches. The highest recorded annual rainfall was 106.3 inches in 1918 and the lowest 65.6 in 1926. The rainfall during 1936 was 76.8 inches.

The normal wet season is from August to November. September is the wettest month of the year, but May is usually a wet month also. There is a definite dry period from about the middle of December to the end of February.

The shade temperature at Kangar varies between a mean maximum of about 89° and a minimum of 73°. It occasionally rises to 96° and has been known to fall to 64°. The highest maximum and minimum temperatures in the shade during the year were 98° and 68° registered on March 3rd and on February 2nd respectively.

At the end of December and in January the climate is delightfully cool and pleasant. From February to April however dry weather is usually experienced, accompanied by an acute shortage of water.

The wet and dry seasons are much more clearly marked than elsewhere on the west coast of the Peninsula.

HISTORY.

3. Until 1821 Perlis was subject to Kedah but when, in 1841, the Siamese allowed the Sultan of Kedah to re-assume the Government, Perlis was made a separate and independent State under an Arab named Syed Hussein, whose father, Syed Harun, had previously acquired the status of local chief. Syed Hussein was given the title of Raja.

4. The present Raja, Syed Alwi bin Almarhom Syed Safi, C.M.G., C.B.E., succeeded his father on 22nd Shawal, 1322 (20th December, 1905) and is the fourth who held that position under the suzerainty of Siam. In 1905, at the request of the Raja, a European Adviser was appointed from Bangkok to advise the Raja in the general management of the country and more particularly in its finances. He remained until 15th July, 1909, when, in consequence of a treaty concluded between Great Britain and Siam, his duties were handed over to a British Adviser of the Malayan Civil Service.

5. On 28th April, 1930, a treaty was signed which defined the friendly relations between His Britannic Majesty and His Highness the Raja of Perlis. By this Treaty the Perlis Government agreed to continue under the protection of His Britannic Majesty, who exercises the right of suzerainty, and to accept a British Adviser.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER II

GOVERNMENT.

CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE.

6. The State of Perlis is governed by His Highness the Raja with the assistance of a State Council consisting of His Highness as President, three other Malay members selected by name or office by His Highness with the approval of His Excellency the High Commissioner, and the British Adviser. By mutual consent of His Excellency and His Highness, additional members may be added to the Council for any specific period.

All legislation is enacted by the State Council and all matters of importance regarding the administration of the State are considered by the Council, which ordinarily meets once a week.

Under the 1930 Treaty, the officers of the Government of Perlis shall be Perlis Malays, but in special circumstances, with the approval of the State Council, others may be employed.

Malay, with Jawi character in the case of the written language, is the official language in all departments except where it is provided in the law of Perlis or by special authority of Government that another language may be used.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

7. Kangar, the administrative headquarters of the State, Arau, the residence of His Highness the Raja, and other chief villages are administered by a Sanitary Board consisting of an official Chairman and other official and unofficial members appointed by the State Council. The Board is responsible for the control of the several areas, for street lighting, scavenging, rating and the administration of the sanitary and building by-laws.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER III

POPULATION.

8. The total population according to 1931 census was 49,296 including 39,716 Malays, 6,500 Chinese, 966 Indians and 2,114 others. Of the others 1,616 were Siamese. This figure is an increase of 23% over the 1921 figure. About the middle of 1935 the population as determined by the balancing equation method was estimated at 51,101 being comprised of 42,023 Malays, 6,137 Chinese, 961 Indians and 1,980 others. By the same method the population in 1936 showed a further increase on the 1935 figure by 850. Perlis is thickly populated for its size.

The urban population is mainly Chinese.

CHAPTER IV

MEDICAL AND HEALTH.*

9. There were 1,019 deaths in the State during 1936—a death rate of 19.61 per mille; the corresponding figure for 1935 was 16.63 per mille.

Births during the year showed an increase, totalling 1,961 as against 1,640 in 1935.

The following table gives the chief causes of deaths for 1933, 1934, 1935 and 1936:—

Deaths from preventable diseases:—

	1933	1934	1935	1936
Fever unspecified	285	323	336	406
Malaria	25	38	19	27
Tuberculosis	45	32	26	42
Dysentery	1	4	2	2
Ankylostomiasis	5	4	3	5
Lobar Pneumonia	19	43	40	29
Hydro-phobia	1	2	...	...
Other Infectious Diseases ...	27	19	17	16
TOTAL ...	408	465	443	527

Note :— * The Statistics relating to this Department are for the Gregorian Year of 1936.

Digitized by Google

Deaths from General Diseases:—

	1933	1934	1935	1936
Digestive System	36	21	34	39
Respiratory System	121	90	87	108
Nervous System	5	2	1	3
Circulatory System	6	8	3	16
Urinary System	5	4	...	1
Affections connected with pregnancy and parturition	32	17	13	22
Tumours	2	2	2	...
Premature births	...	1	2	3
Infantile convulsions	119	116	88	150
General, accident, old age, ill-defined conditions, etc.	121	159	177	150
TOTAL ...	447	420	407	492

PREVAILING DISEASES.

10. 406 deaths occurred from "fever unspecified", as against 336 in 1935.

Malaria: 27 deaths occurred during the year as against 19 in 1935. Most of the cases came from Kaki Bukit.

Infantile convulsions: 150 deaths occurred.

Typhoid and para-typhoid fever: 10 deaths were recorded during the year of which two occurred in the Hospital.

Dysentery: 2 deaths were recorded. 16 cases were treated successfully in the Hospital, as against 20 cases with 1 death in 1935. 14 out of these were amoebic.

Pulmonary tuberculosis: There were 42 deaths in the State as against 26 in 1935. 40 cases were treated in the Hospital with 12 deaths as against 32 cases with 8 deaths in 1935.

Pneumonia: 62 cases with 29 deaths were treated in the Hospital.

Yaws: 706 cases were treated of which only 162 came up for the second injection. For the fourth injection, strangely enough only 13 attended.

Digitized by Google

Infantile Mortality.

11. There were 218 deaths among infants under one year old, the rate being 116.64 per mille (corrected rate). The corresponding figure for 1935 was 122, equivalent to 79.07 per mille.

The infantile death rate per thousand births relative to the principal nationalities during the past four years was:—

Year	Malays	Chinese	*Siamese	*Indians
1933	82.06	181.08	185.19	142.86
1934	76.47	121.74	65.22	133.33
1935	65.23	165.94	25.00	58.82
1936	105.92	155.30	254.55	66.67

Maternity.

12. Twenty-two deaths were recorded as due to affections connected with pregnancy and child-birth, a percentage of 1.12 of the total births. The figure for 1935 was 13 deaths or a percentage of 0.794. The number of still-births notified was 92 as against 97 in 1935.

Hygiene and Sanitation.

13. Larval surveys were carried out in the Sanitary Board areas of Kangar, Arau and Kaki Bukit and mosquitoes were sent to the Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur for identification and dissection. Anti-mosquito measures (mainly clearing, oiling and digging drains) were carried out in the Sanitary Board areas of Kangar and Kaki Bukit.

14. Refuse is disposed of in each Sanitary Board area either by incineration or by burial. A marked improvement has been effected in the disposal of refuse at Kangar and Arau by the construction during 1936 of a new Horsfall model incinerator midway between the two villages, to which the refuse of both villages is transported by lorry.

Note:—*These Statistics relate to small and scattered sections of the population and are of little statistical value. No conclusion can be drawn from them as to the health of these nationalities.

Digitized by Google

15. An investigation was carried out into burial grounds and certain undesirable ones were closed towards the end of the year. A site was chosen for a burial ground reserve for the Hospital and for nationalities other than Malays and preparation of this was in hand at the close of the year. The Chinese burial ground at Jejawi was cleared and fenced.

16. Measures were taken to improve conditions in the mining village of Kaki Bukit. An out-door dispensary was opened during the year and is visited four days a week by a Dresser. Arrangements are in hand to maintain a resident dresser there and it will be possible to do so in 1937. The Dispensary has proved very popular. A market has also been constructed in the village.

Kaki Bukit is a neighbourhood which can be said to be saturated with Malaria. In order to reduce the incidence of this disease in the locality, by an arrangement with the Straits Settlements Government, the State was visited by Mr. J. S. De Villiers, Chief Sanitary Inspector, Penang who made a careful and comprehensive examination of the whole village area. The recommendations contained in his report will receive consideration in 1937, but in order to ensure that improvement in the sanitary conditions of the locality may not be impeded or delayed by lack of funds, a Kaki Bukit Health Fund was created towards the end of the year by the levying of a cess of 40 cents a pikul on the tin-ore exported from the State. This fund (which is administered by a Committee of miners with the Adviser as Chairman) will be utilised solely for improving the medical and sanitary amenities of the village.

17. The question of the provision of a pure water supply to the village of Kuala Perlis has long been engaging the attention of the Government and during the year this was provided. The source of water is a spring in a stream rising in the hills at Wei—about 2 miles from Kuala Perlis. In order to ensure the purity of the supply the original stream has been diverted and the water from the spring is impounded in a well constructed round it and thence is conveyed through pipes to a cement well on the banks of the Sungei Perlis. The water is delivered to boats through a discharge pipe either by gravitation or by use of a hand pump, depending on the tide.

18. With the assistance of the Government of Kedah a scheme for the training of Kampong Midwives was inaugurated and the first pupil was sent for training in October. Candidates are selected from the kampongs where they will be stationed when qualified. They are engaged as " pupil midwives " and are trained in Kedah for

Digitized by Google

a year. Having passed the required examination the candidate is posted to a kampong having a high infantile mortality as a "Government Subsidised Midwife". This service is entirely independent of any other Government Midwifery Service.

19. By the appointment of an Assistant Health Officer in December 1936 the foundation stone of a Health Unit in Perlis has been laid. Only the limited revenues of the State have prevented this step being taken earlier.

Visits to Estates.

20. There are four estates in Perlis, 3 of which are Asiatic and one European owned. Regular visits have been made by the Health Officer to these Estates where the labour force is mainly Indian. The sanitary conditions in these estates are slowly but surely improving. During the year Madar Estate has made a remarkable transformation in its lines and general sanitary conditions. It is hoped that the other Estates will follow its example during 1937.

There were 7 deaths among the Estate population, 3 infants and 4 adults.

Visits to Schools.

21. Regular fortnightly visits were made to 16 schools by the Travelling Dispensary. Of the Malay Vernacular schools of Perlis (4 girls' and 20 boys') all the boys' schools were visited by the Assistant Medical Officer. The following are statistics of health:—

(1) Total number of children on register .. 2,610
(2) Total number of children inspected .. 2,055

No.	Diseases	No. of cases	Percentage
1	Splenic enlargement ...	569	27·69
2	Cardio-vascular lesions ...	6	0·29
3	Not vaccinated (Never vaccinated) ...	189	9·20
	(Vaccinated, but not taken) ...	57	2·77
4	Otitis	18	0·88
5	Scabies	182	8·86
6	Yaws	30	1·46
7	Other skin diseases ...	75	3·65
8	Ocular lesions	7	0·34
9	Dental Caries	1,192	58.00
10	Bronchitis	46	2·24

46 children had Neosalversan injection for Yaws.

Digitized by Google

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

22. A General Hospital with ward accommodation for 66 third class patients and 6 second class patients is maintained by the Government at Kangar and is in charge of an Assistant Medical Officer. During the year a Phthisis Ward with accommodation for 12 patients was opened. To encourage those Malays who are still suspicious of Western Modern Medical treatment to come into Hospital two " Malay Huts " were built in the Hospital premises. A labour room newly built was opened during the year. The installation of a boiler for generating hot water for use in the Out-patient Department has proved a great asset and the introduction of Electric lighting has greatly added to the general amenities of the Hospital.

23. The number of indoor cases treated during the year was 1,667, a slight increase over the 1935 number. There were 109 deaths, a percentage of 6.54 to total treated. Excluding 38 deaths which occurred within 48 hours of admission, the death rate was 4.36%. The average duration of stay in hospital of fatal cases was 20.08 days. The average daily number of in-patients was 60.72 and the largest number of in-patients treated in one day (May 29th) was 95.

There was an increase in the number of cases admitted for Malaria, Venereal Diseases, Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Ankylostomiasis, Injuries and other diseases while the number admitted for Dysentery, Pneumonia, other lung complaints and ulcers was about the same.

7,057 cases were treated in the out-patient department. 2,661 vaccinations were performed, and 1,164 Neosalversan injections were given, mostly for yaws.

Of the 108 Estate coolies admitted into hospital five died during the year.

24. The Travelling Dispensary made fortnightly visits into the country and attended 1,579 cases excluding those attended at schools, Police Stations and cooly lines. The lack of access roads to many small villages makes the work of this dispensary difficult. The introduction of small Out-door Dispensaries in Arau and Kuala Perlis villages in the future will be of practical assistance to this branch of medical work.

25. Five mental cases (all males) were transferred to the Central Mental Hospital, Tanjong Rambutan, during the year. Three were discharged as cured during the period under review. There was a total of 19 Perlis patients (12 males and 7 females) in the institution at the end of 1936.

Digitized by Google

26. Three lepers were transferred to the Leper Settlement at Sungei Buloh. At the end of the year there were four Perlis lepers in leper institutions—one at Pulau Jerejak and three at Sungei Buloh.

RABIES.

27. 17 cases of dog bite were reported during the year. 20 dogs in all were concerned of which 3 were unknown stray dogs. 16 dogs were declared not rabid after the usual observation of ten days. One was killed on the spot. The brains of two dogs were sent to the Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur, and both were reported to be positive. Out of the 4 persons bitten by dogs actually rabid or suspected to be rabid, one could not be traced, one refused treatment and the other two were sent to Alor Star for treatment.

The usual measures to combat rabies were strictly enforced.

28. The State Surgeon, Kedah, continued to visit the State on inspection duties and the Adviser, Medical and Health Services, Malay States, paid an official visit to the State in June, 1936.

CHAPTER V

HOUSING.

29. There is no housing problem in Perlis. The bulk of the population are Malay peasent proprietors engaged in rice cultivation. They live on their own land in houses of the usual Malay type common throughout the Peninsula. Their houses are usually sanitary and well ventilated.

The houses of the Chinese agriculturists and small shopkeepers in the rural districts are usually primitive huts, not raised from the ground, having plank walls and attap or corrugated iron roofs with earth floors.

On estates the Indian labourer is housed in lines which are subject to inspection and approval by the Protector of Labour.

The Government provides lines or houses rent free for its own coolies.

The Chinese coolies employed on mines live either in Kaki Bukit (a village controlled by the Sanitary Board) or, where the mines are more accessible, in lines provided by the management. These are generally overcrowded but some which are now, or have been, under European supervision are substantial and airy buildings and adequately serve their purpose.

Digitized by Google

30. In the villages administered by the Sanitary Board, building is subject to control and plans are required to be submitted for approval before any new buildings are erected or any structural alteration to existing buildings made.

In the business quarters, houses are of the usual shop house type, the majority of which are two-storied. In Kangar and Arau most of the shop houses are brick buildings whereas in Kaki Bukit and Padang Besar they are generally temporary constructions having plank or thatched roofs. There is no uniformity either in the width or the length of these shop houses. The majority of them, especially the older ones, are ill-ventilated and in a number of cases far too long in proportion to their width with the result that the interiors lack sunshine. This is particularly so in Kaki Bukit where some of the buildings are 200 feet long. But here the amount of supervision which the Sanitary Board can afford to give to the village is hardly equal to the enterprise of the Chinese inhabitants who seem to regard the Board's effects to enforce sanitary measures as a Government device to collect more taxes rather than to improve their standard of health. In Kangar and Arau the dwellings in the suburbs, other than Government Quarters and the houses of the more well-to-do, are mostly of the usual type of Malay dwelling built on piles with floors raised above the ground. They are well ventilated and comfortable.

In Kangar a layout of the village has been approved while a new site is under preparation for the village of Kaki Bukit. At one period it was thought that an improved layout could be prepared for the existing village but it is realised that it would be of greater advantage to move the village to a new site on the higher ground adjacent. This will naturally take time but if the supply of tin in the State holds out there will never be any large decrease in the population in this locality.

31. Difficulty has always attended any control at Kuala Perlis where there is one of the largest fishing villages in Malaya with a population of nearly 5,000 inhabitants. Normal access to the Kuala from Kangar is, at present, by Sungei Perlis a distance of some seven miles; but as a metalled road is being built to the Kuala it will be possible to secure control ultimately through the medium of the Sanitary Board.

32. The Government builds houses for its officials as funds permit.

Each village and every school has its play ground or open space so that there is ample scope for recreation throughout the State.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VI

PRODUCTION.

MINING.

33. A detailed account of the unique character of the cave mining in Perlis, which is practically the only kind of tin mining practised in the State, was given in the Administration Report for 1354. In that account it was foreshadowed that the time might soon come when, owing to the decline in output from the hills, it would be necessary for the Government to give serious consideration to the question of permitting other forms of mining where adequate measures for the control and retention of tailings can be assured. As no reports of new rich finds have been made and as alluvial tin is said to exist in the Wangs in paying quantities, a scheme for open cast mining in Wang Tangga by using hydraulic elevator was approved during the year. Actual operations were interrupted by a prolonged drought at the end of 1355 which deprived the mine of its source of power but it is hoped that the scheme with its extensions (which have been set out by the applicant) will be a factor in checking the decline in the State's production of tin-ore.

34. Perlis remained a party to the International Agreement for the control of production of tin and the State was allotted in 1936 a fixed flat rate of 78.64 tons tin a quarter, with an additional 177½ tons, the latter amount being subject to the prevailing International Export Quota. 9,960 pikuls of tin-ore were exported during 1355 against 7,291 pikuls in the previous year but even this figure was almost 900 pikuls short of the permissible exports.

The Government revenue from mines was $6,045 in rents as against $6,548 in the previous year but export duty paid amounted to $73,096 as against $57,337 in 1354.

35. In nearly all cases mining titles consist of short leases for five years. So far only mining certificates have been issued pending proper survey of the land as survey is a costly undertaking owing to the hilly nature of the ground, the mining area being in the western corner of the State where the country is studded with series of limestone hills generally steep and all covered with fissures and crevices. 39 applications for mining land, comprising an area of 988 Relongs were received during the year. With those outstanding for 1354 the total number involved was 56 with a total area of 1,285 Relongs. Of this number 41

Digitized by Google

were dealt with and 952 Relongs of land alienated. Most of these applications were in respect of renewals of expired or expiring mining certificates. The few remaining mining licences were replaced, on their expiry, by mining certificates. Fourteen mining certificates for an aggregate area of 343 Relongs were registered during the year. The total area of mining land held at the end of the year was 4,387 Relongs as compared with 4,591 Relongs held at the end of the preceding year.

The policy of not giving out land for mining purposes except on surrender of a corresponding area of alienated land or for the purpose of following up underground workings into State land was maintained throughout the year. No Prospecting Licences were issued. In Perlis, owing to the peculiar nature of the mining country, prospecting is synonymous with mining.

According to returns the number of persons engaged in the industry in the State was 1,700 against 1,500 at the end of 1354. It is almost impossible however to take an accurate census of the population as many mines are difficult to approach.

36. Gallena was exported from the State for the first time during the year.

AGRICULTURE.

37. Apart from the small mining area described above, Perlis may be described as being essentially agricultural and the majority of its settled population is engaged in Padi planting. Padi and rice form main items of export from the State.

38. *Padi*: The State is fortunate in having more or less well defined seasons for rain which help in giving the necessary supply of water to the fields. These seasons are not always dependable and thus the State is under a disability owing to the lack of irrigation schemes. There have been occasions when the rain were short of normal requirements resulting in failure of crops.

In the inland areas the soil is a light sandy clay and bat guano obtained locally is used for manuring the fields. It is said that 100 gantangs of guano applied once in three years is the normal requirement. In the coastal region where the land was once covered with tall forest of Gelam wood, the soil is of heavy clay and is generally so rich that manuring of the fields is not required.

Digitized by Google

In preparing fields for planting, ploughs drawn by buffaloes or bullocks are extensively used. The implements are made locally and are generally satisfactory. It is gratifying to be able to record that the young Malays of the Kampongs in Perlis have not yet learnt to despise the age long profession of their forefathers on the land nor have they allowed themselves to be drawn to the more gay but precarious existence of the towns; and it is not unusual during the working season to see boys of 13 or 14 years of age guiding the ploughs and to hear their shrill youthful voices ringing through the morning air as they command their draught animals to attention. Such a sight would be a rarity in the more up to date States in British Malaya. How long they will be content to pursue the calling of their forefathers, however, is a matter for conjecture only.

The use of padi seeds of selected high yielding strains was encouraged and the Government Test Plots were maintained during the year. In addition, six Penghulus were assisted with small Government loans to plant up an area of 3 Relongs each with padi of selected varieties in order to provide seed for the inhabitants of the Kampong. Unfortunately disease and floods destroyed a great portion of these plots.

The total area planted with padi in 1355 was 58,975 Relongs with a yield of 10,518,800 gantangs as against 58,888 Relongs with a total yield of 12,130,279 gantangs. The lower yields are due to several causes. The lateness of rains dislocated the work, floods came at an unexpected time and a fungus disease attacked the growing crops which in their early stages promised to be quite good.

There was an appreciable rise in the price of padi during the year and the opening of another rice mill at Kangar helped to stimulate a competition which is considered to be to the advantage of the cultivators.

39. *Rubber*: Next in importance to padi comes rubber. There was no Rubber Supervision Legislation in the State and no record of rubber holdings had been kept, the area under cultivation being merely roughly estimated from reports made by Penghulus in connection with the introduction of Rubber Regulation. Re-inspection of small holdings was commenced on 18th Rabialakhir, 1355 (8th July, 1936) and continued to the end of the year. Until re-inspection is completed it is not possible to give an accurate estimate of the planted acreage of rubber holdings in the State.

Digitized by Google

In regard to large holdings, the position was also considered to be unsatisfactory. Not only were the planted areas of such holdings a matter of uncertainty but also the Standard Productions alloted to these Estates were based on inaccurate records. Accordingly it was arranged for an inspection to be made towards the end of the year and Mr. F. J. Souter visited the State in January, 1937 for this purpose.

On the data collected in regard to both types of holdings, the planted acreage of rubber in the State may be given as follows:—

	Acres.
Holdings of less than 25 Acres ..	2,916
Holdings of 25 Acres and over but less than 100 Acres	Nil
Holdings over 100 Acres	1,960

These figures differ materially from the figures given in the 1354 Report in respect of small holdings but the latter figure was based on an estimate only and it is now possible to give more accurate details of these areas.

Rubber control continued to be exercised and the State was allotted a quota of 600 tons for the year 1936. Provisional Standard Productions were fixed for large estates amounting to 4,332 Pikuls and the total value of coupons issued to small holdings was 3,625 Pikuls. Rubber exported amounted to 6,060 Pikuls. The exports in 1935 were 6,035 Pikuls.

The steadily rising price of the commodity enabled the owners of rubber land to give attention to the cleaning of their holdings and to pay their rents more promptly. There was, however, no noticeable improvement in the method of preparation of their rubber for the market among the small holders although a local dealer has constructed a fairly large smoke house to treat the small holders' rubber prior to export.

40. *Coconuts etc.*: Coconuts are third in importance amongst the list of cultivations. There are no large estates in Perlis but the total areas under coconut cultivation is reported to be 3,152 Acres. These consist mostly of trees planted in Kampongs either as sole or mixed crops. There was a slight revival of the copra industry in the Kampong. Copra is exported to Penang but the nuts are used for local consumption only.

Digitized by Google

Other forms of cultivation are Nipah Palms, arecanuts, bananas, fruits, vegetables, sireh leaves, pineapples, water melons and tobacco. Nipah palms are used for making attaps and cigarette wrappers. They are also tapped for sugar and for making vinegar for sale locally.

41. *Live Stock*: Closely associated with agriculture is stock breeding. The bulk of the export of eggs and poultry is by Chinese Padi planters, a colony of whom have established themselves in the Mukims of Kuala Perlis, Kayang and Sanglang in the coastal region, 42,216 chickens and 15,135 ducks were exported during the year and 4,786,615 hen and duck eggs. These almost correspond with the 1354 figures.

Animal breeding is an important part of the life of the peasantry as buffaloes and cattle are valuable assets in a State mainly devoted to agriculture. The lack of suitable grazing grounds in Perlis is an initial difficulty in assisting animal husbandry and the cultivation of fodder grass does not seem to appeal to the people. The scheme for improving the breed of cattle, operated with the help of the State Veterinary Surgeon, Kedah, has not been an unqualified success as the selected animals suffered from an eye disease and this trouble was followed by a scarcity of grass owing to a prolonged drought in the latter part of the year.

Pigs slaughtered locally are mostly imported from Kedah.

The following figures give the animal population of the State.

Buffaloes	4,233
Cattle	9,347
Sheep and Goats	2,753
Pigs	1,513

Under an arrangement with the Government of Kedah, the Principal Agricultural Officer of Kedah assists the State in agricultural matters. The State Veterinary Surgeon, Kedah, has on all occasions been ready to give this Government the benefit of his advice and help.

42. *Forests*: There is no organised forest department in the State and the forest has always been regarded as having little economic value. There is a definite shortage of good timber. There is an area of 39 square miles of Reserve Jungle on the East of the Railway Line which was declared a Reserve some nine years ago. A new area of approximately 11 square miles was created a Reserve during the year.

Digitized by Google

On the coastal plain there are about 10 square miles of Gelam (a species of Melaleuca) which is used for firewood and piling and which yields a bark used by the peasant for roofing. There is practically no mangrove in the State.

43. *Fisheries*: The State has a coast line of about 13 miles, the 5 fathoms line being on an average five miles out to sea. During the year 2,780 pikuls of salt water fish were exported as against 3,682 pikuls in 1354. The bulk of this went to Penang in a dried state. 4,753 pikuls of fresh water fish were also exported to Penang as against 4,129 pikuls in the previous year. Exports of dried prawns and prawn refuse amount to 28 and 50 pikuls respectively.

It is anticipated that the opening of the new road to Kuala Perlis in 1357 will materially assist the industry by enabling the people of the Kuala to find markets further afield than Kangar.

CHAPTER VII

COMMERCE.

44. Figures are available regarding the Import and Export of dutiable goods only.

Comparative figures for 1354 and 1355 in respect of principal imports and exports are as follows:—

IMPORTS.

Articles	1354	1355	Value in 1355
			$
Beer, Cider etc. (gallons) ...	2,810	4,108	10,409
Chinese Spirits (gallons) ...	824	873	8,362
European Spirits (gallons) ...	857	871	13,445
Cigarettes (lbs.)	56,656	63,047	99,959
Coffee (pikuls)	1,509	1,707	20,411
Kerosene oil (gallons) ...	84,136	103,386	47,557
Petrol (gallons)	58,098	65,880	26,352
Piece goods (yards) ...	300,249	310,271	83,039
Sugar (lbs.) ...	1,626,678	1,872,734	46,960
Tinned Milk (pounds) ...	150,449	173,435	25,132
Tobacco (lbs.) ...	33,411	46,093	54,044

Digitized by Google

EXPORTS.

Articles.	1354	1355	Value in 1355
			$
Arecanuts (pikuls) ...	703	1,050	6,000
Buffaloes and cattle (head) ...	726	157	8,085
Copra (pikuls) ...	4,468	3,570	17,168
Fish (pikuls) ...	7,997	7,531	67,938
Goats (head) ...	788	917	4,846
Hides and Horns (pikuls) ...	203	169	2,174
Padi (pikuls) ...	135,455	150,864	194,533
Phosphates (tons) ...	525	411	3,456
Poultry (head) ...	45,973	57,353	17,300
Rice (pikuls) ...	119,595	95,886	316,139
Rubber (pikuls) ...	6,203	6,012	233,383
Tapioca (pikuls) ...	7,135	10,296	9,770
Tin-ore (pikuls) ...	7,291	9,960	730,956

It will be seen that there was a general increase in both imports (notably in Cigarettes, Kerosene Oil, Petrol, Piece goods and Tobacco) and in exports. There was a slight decrease in the amount of Rice exported, but in the main the figures reflect the general trend of trade improvement. Export duty amounting to $123,901 was collected as against $104,319 in 1354 while the duty paid on imports rose from $209,977 in 1354 to $250,100 in 1355, a substantial increase.

45. The following comparative table shows the differences in the main items of Customs Revenue in the years 1353 to 1355:—

	1353	1354	1355
	$	$	$
Tin	70,822	57,333	73,096
Padi and rice	21,409	23,745	26,210
Fish	6,616	8,962	8,430
Tobacco	69,326	83,284	99,807
Sugar	44,415	48,800	56,182
Petrol	16,448	20,334	23,058
Spirits	13,902	16,736	18,960
Piece goods	11,734	10,302	16,176

The total export duty collected amounted to $123,901 as against $104,319, while the duty paid on imports rose from $209,977 to $250,100.

Digitized by Google

46. Apart from the main items quoted above, other exports are timber and forest produce on a small scale. Perlis is, however, mainly an agricultural country and there is no question of seeking markets outside her own boundaries in this respect.

The bulk of the trade in Perlis is with Penang, partly by rail and partly by sea. There are no direct imports from or exports to other countries.

Lorry transport via Kedah has become more common but the sea and river routes remain popular in the case of heavy goods.

47. The importation of cotton and artificial silk piece goods manufactured in foreign countries continued to be regulated by quota throughout the year and, in common with other States in the Peninsula, Perlis maintained control over the export of Rubber and Tin.

CHAPTER VIII

LABOUR.

INCLUDING WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

48. The average population of labour in the State throughout the year was as follows:—

	Malays.	*Indians.*	*Chinese.*	*Others.*
Males ..	120	335	4	3
Females ..	15	114	..	..

This labour is distributed amongst the Public Works Department, the Federated Malay State Railways and the principle rubber estates. There is also a fairly large number of Chinese labourers (estimated to be in the region of 2,000) employed in the mines and having their headquarters in Kaki Bukit. It is not practical to obtain returns of this labour as many live for long periods in Kongsis in the Hills and there is constant flow from Perlis to mines in the Federated Malay States and vice versa.

Rubber estates in Perlis and two Rice mills (one newly opened near Kangar) employing Chinese labour were visited by the Controller of Labour, Kedah who advises this Government in labour matters. Recommendations were made for the provision of suitable housing and sanitation and most of these have been carried out. One prosecution was instituted during the year but complaints by members of labour forces were settled departmentally.

Digitized by Google

The Labour Law in Perlis is similar to that obtaining in other Malay States.

No labourers were recruited from India during the year.

Sick labourers are treated in Kangar Hospital but each estate has its "medicine chest" to deal with minor complaints.

49. With the exception of one estate, the rate of wages paid was considered to be on the low side, averaging from 30 to 35 cents a day for both tappers and weeders (women generally receiving a little less). Recommendations for a general increase were made. Chinese miners receive on an average $1 a day and those employed in the mills at Kangar and Arau about the same.

50. The cost of living remained low and there cannot be said to be any unemployment. There is a lack of skilled labour in the State but unskilled labour is always plentiful. The population of Perlis is predominantly Malay with a mixture of Chinese who (apart from those engaged in mining) are engaged in shop keeping in various villages in the State. A number of Siamese are also found among the agricultural population. The majority of Malays are peasant proprietors engaged in the cultivation of their rice fields and they are only too willing, outside the padi season, to supplement their resources by seeking employment on road works or in clearing of rivers and other Government undertakings. Government standard wages are paid to them.

CHAPTER IX

EDUCATION.

51. A Standing Committee appointed by the State Council acts in an advisory capacity in all matters connected with Education in the schools and with the welfare of the pupils.

52. Malay Vernacular Eduction up to Standard V is obtainable in the schools and this education is free. Under Enactment No. 2 of 1335 (School Attendance) attendance at schools is compulsory for male children provided that a school exists within two miles from their homes. There is, however, ample scope for expansion before vernacular education is open to all.

Digitized by Google

53. There are no Government English schools in the State but promising boys are assisted in furthering their education abroad either by grants to the parents or by payment of fees. Selected boys who are to become teachers are sent to the Sultan Idris Training College, Tanjong Malim, or, if it is desired that they should qualify for administrative or clerical posts, to the Malay College at Kuala Kangsar or to the Sultan Abdul Hamid College in Alor Star. This policy is in accordance with the 1930 Treaty.

During the year twelve students were undergoing training at the Sultan Idris Training College. Four of them completed their course and returned to the State and four others were sent for training. Two students were sent abroad, one to Kuala Kangsar and the other to Alor Star, for English education at Government expense. The Government also paid the fees of educating seven other students in English schools in Penang and Alor Star.

54. The Staff of the Department consisted of one Inspector of Schools, one Visiting Teacher and 96 Teachers including 24 Koran Teachers. Of these 79 were males and 17 females. Of the male teachers 15 were trained.

55. There was no change in the number of vernacular schools in the State during the year these being 20 boys' and 4 girls' schools. The total enrolment was 2,887 (2,350 boys and 537 girls) as against 2,411 (2,052 boys and 359 girls) in the previous year, an increase of about 15%. The average attendance was 92%.

The increase in the number of pupils was more than twice that of the previous year which was about 6%. The problem of providing adequate accommodation and equipment to keep pace with this rapid growth in numbers is a very real one. Many of the schools are overcrowded but there is an all round eagerness and desire for Education and in places in which the Government has not yet erected schools, the people themselves are providing temporary buildings for children who cannot easily reach centres where there are schools.

The number of boys who sat for the Standard V Examination at the end of the year was 249. Of these 177 passed, a percentage of 71 as against a percentage of 68 in the previous year. 23 girls sat for the girls' Standard V Examination and all of them passed.

Digitized by Google

School Buildings.

56. Three new school buildings were erected in place of old ones at Abi, Padang Besar and Oran. New Teachers' Quarters were also built at Kangar, Abi and Padang Besar. These buildings were raised about 8 feet from the ground in order that the ground floor can be used in the event of future overcrowding. There are now in the State no schools with earth floors, a common feature some years previously.

Furniture.

57. School furniture to the value of $200 was purchased during the year and distributed to the schools most in need of it.

Games.

58. Football is becoming more popular amongst the children and almost every school has its football ground. The Inter-School Football League which is held once a year is enthusiastically "followed" not only by the children themselves but also by the parents and kampong folk who flock to the grounds on the occasion of each match to encourage the young players. The league was started rather late in the year due to unfavourable weather and had to be continued into 1356.

Badminton is also played by some schools.

Physical training forms a part of the curriculum of all schools and an admirable combined display of drill by pupils from all schools takes place once or twice a year at Kangar or Arau during annual celebrations.

Gardens.

59. Thirteen schools upkept gardens during the year, an increase of two on last year's figure. More interest has been shewn by the staffs and pupils in the annual competition for the best upkept school garden. Owing to a very dry period in the middle of the year the gardens did not reach the standard required for inspection and the competition was deferred until 1356.

Girls' Schools.

60. The number of girls' schools in the State has remained the same for several years although the number of girls attending them has increased considerably and, in spite of the admission of a large number of girls into boys' schools, the girls' schools are still overcrowded. It must be admitted also that the standard of teaching in the schools is low, attributable to the lack of trained teachers. With

Digitized by Google

a view to effecting improvement, an arrangement was made with the Government of Kedah for Miss M. B. Lewis, the Headmistress of the Kampong Bahru Girls' School, Alor Star, to inspect, report on and make recommendations for the improvement of the girls' schools in the State. Miss Lewis visited Perlis in June and made recommendations not only for improving the standard of teaching but also for widening the scope of the educational facilities in the schools; including in her report suggestions for improvements in Administration and Staffing, the Curriculum, Drill and Games, Handwork and School Equipment. These recommendations are receiving the attention of the Government and steps have already been taken to give effect to a large number of them.

The experiment of admitting girls under the age of ten into boys' schools which was commenced two years ago has proved to be successful, there being a steady yearly increase in admission figures. In 1355 there were 181 girls attending boys' schools as against 147 in the previous year.

Religious Instruction.

61. Since the separation of the Koran schools from the vernacular schools in 1353 Religious Teaching has been carried out in the afternoons in the buildings of the vernacular schools. There are 24 Koran Teachers who are under the control of a Visiting Teacher.

General.

62. Che' Abdul Wahab, the Inspector of Schools, was transferred from the Education Department to the Courts at the beginning of the year. The work of the Department was carried out by Che' Hashim, the Visiting Teacher.

63. During the year a Perlis Government Scholarship was founded for the Education of Malay boys at either the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar or the Sultan Abdul Hamid College, Alor Star. Under this Scheme Scholarships are awarded, entirely on the result of an open Competitive Examination, for free education at either of the above named Colleges. The privileges attached to the Scholarship consist of remission of school and examination fees, and include a free of text books and a certain amount of pocket money. Only boys under the age of eleven years who have passed the third standard in any of the vernacular schools are eligible to sit for the Scholarship Examination.

64. Lessons in basketry were recommenced in all vernacular schools and at the end of the year a quantity of rattan waste-paper baskets and letter trays had been made.

Digitized by Google

Attempts are being made to raise the standard of Needlework in the girls' schools and to introduce a better and more useful class of work than that produced in the past. With this end in view it has been arranged that two local Malay ladies shall visit the schools in order to instruct girls in this subject.

65. A private English school was started at Kangar by an enterprising teacher from Penang. The school is open during the afternoons and a fair number of boys of all nationalities attend. These hours do not interfere with those of their own schools.

66. The total cost of the Education Department during the year, including Religious Education, was $41,519.

CHAPTER X

COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

67. A Post and Telegraph Department is maintained in the State by the Kedah Government. There is a Post Office at Kangar and the following is a Comparative Statement showing the business transacted in that office during the last 3 years:—

	1353	1354	1355
Letters	96,564	104,260	130,195
Registered Articles	4,143	4,081	4,533
Parcels (ordinary, insured and C.O.D.)	1,131	1,005	980
Telegrams	3,016	2,711	2,951
Money Orders and Postal Orders ...	$48,937	$59,754	$78,750

The large increase in Money and Postal Orders indicates the general increase in trade activity.

At the end of the year the Savings Bank included 814 accounts with a total of $30,648, as against 181 accounts having total deposits of $23,006 in the preceding year.

Digitized by Google

There is also a Post Office at Padang Besar Railway Station on the frontier between the State and Siam in which the Station Master acts as Post Master. This office deals only with urgent business and direct with Alor Star. During the year the following business was transacted at this branch as against the two previous years.

	1353	1354	1355
Letters	35,243	28,665	32,628
Register Articles	2,179	1,997	2,164
Parcels (ordinary)	54	46	70

The Revenue collected by the Department was $4,151 and the expenditure was $3,433.

In December of 1936 it was made possible to telephone from Kangar Exchange direct to Alor Star. Previously calls from either place had to be taken through the two sub-exchanges of Kodiang and Jitra.

On January 15th, 1937 the telephone trunk service of Perlis was extended from Kangar to the Federated Malay States, Johore and Singapore. This improvement is of great advantage. The Police Station at Padang Besar, however, is still not in telephonic communication with Kangar or with any other Station and lines used in communicating urgent business are those of the Federated Malay States Railways to Arau which are not connected up with the Kedah system in the State. As Padang Besar is the frontier station between Malaya and Siam on the West it is desirable that the two systems should be connected.

Sea Communication.

68. The chief ports in the State are Kangar, about 7 miles up the Perlis River, and Sanglang on the Sea Coast on the border between Perlis and Kedah. Customs Stations are at Kangar, Kuala Perlis, Kuala Sungei Bahru and Kuala Sanglang. During high tide the Perlis River is navigable for Junks up to Kangar and the majority of the heavy goods imported and exported are despatched by this route. During 1355 the number of junks entering Perlis ports was 287 with a tonnage of 12,480 as against 299 having a tonnage of 19,019 in 1354. Small motar boats ply frequently to the Kedah River and to Setul in Siam. 155 motor boats entered the ports during the year.

In a moderately fast launch the journey to Pulau Langkawi (Kedah) can be made in 2 hours from Kuala Perlis.

Digitized by Google

RAILWAYS.

69. The main line of the Federated Malay States Railways from Penang to Siam runs through the State from North to South. Padang Besar at the frontier is operated jointly by the Federated Malay States Railways and the Siamese State Railways. The International Express passes through the State to and from Bangkok twice a week. All stations on the line are connected with the main roads. The railway does not touch Kangar, but passes through Arau, the residence of His Highness the Raja.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS.

70. Perlis is well served with roads of which there are almost 37 miles metalled. There are also 10 miles of unmentalled road and 24 miles of bridle paths. There is, however, no direct route by the road through to Siam other than through Kedah territory via Jitra and Kodiang. Good progress is being made on the new road to Kuala Perlis.

47 miles of canals and rivers were cleared and maintained during the year out of a total of 89. The canals (built during the time of the late Raja) still provide a means of transport between many places on the coastal plain.

CHAPTER XI

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

BANKING.

71. There are no banks in the State except the Kedah Posts and Telegraphs Savings Bank at Kangar, which had a sum of $30,648 to the credit of 214 depositors at the end of the year, as against 181 depositors with $23,006 held at the end of the previous year.

CURRENCY.

72. The unit of currency is the Straits Settlements Dollar which has a par value of two shillings and four pence.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

73. The unit of weight is the pikul (or 133 1/3 lbs.) which is divided into 100 katis. English and Chinese weights are also used.

The unit of measurement of capacity is the gantang, of which the kuncha (160 gantangs) and the naleh (16 gantangs) are multiples.

The unit of land measurement is the relong which is the equivalent of 0.71 of an acre.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XII

PUBLIC WORKS.

74. The total expenditure of the Department for the year was $153,119 made up as follows:—

Personal Emoluments	$ 13,823
Other Charges Annually Recurrent ..	$ 2,808
Annually Recurrent	$ 50,874
Special Services	$ 85,614
Total ..	$153,119

The expenditure in 1354 was $133,622. The increase in 1355 of $19,497 was wholly in Special Services.

A. ANNUALLY RECURRENT.

WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

75. A sum of $9,000 was expended on upkeep of Government buildings. This figure is low as the greater number of buildings are of temporary or semi-permanent types with attap roofs.

ROADS, STREETS AND BRIDGES.

76. Approximately 36½ miles of metalled roads were maintained during the year at a cost of $28,964. Almost 2 miles of metalled roads were remetalled and asphalted (semi-grout) at a cost of 68 cents a square yard.

The expenditure on gravelled roads was $2,578. There are in the State many miles of well formed earth roads (built by Syed Safi the late Raja) which have never been taken over for maintenance and which will, no doubt, form the basis of metalled road extension in due course. During the year, however, 4 miles of these roads were put in good order. One 50 feet main road timber bridge was partly reconstructed with concrete piles and new beams and decking. The sum of $1,500 was spent on renewal of 8 main road culverts.

Digitized by Google

WATERWORKS.

77. The water supply for Kangar and Arau is provided by the Public Works Department. The source of the supply is on the hills known as Wang Tampul and Wang Panjang some nine miles to the North West of Kangar. In dry months this supply requires to be augmented by a pumping and filtration plant at Repoh 2 miles from Kangar where water is pumped from the Sungei Jerneh, being chemically treated to make it suitable for drinking purposes.

The Padang Besar supply is obtained through the courtesy of the Federated Malay States Railways authorities. The water is pumped from a reservoir into a tank from where it is brought through pipes to the village. Public stand pipes are provided but there are no separate supplies to houses.

The capital cost of the Abi Headworks and Repoh Auxiliary Plant totalled $269,723. Maintenance costs during the year amounted to $2,858 and Revenue excluding meter rents amounted to $2,679. The revenue figure is a great increase on the previous year, and is three times the amount collected in 1353 but even this figure does not balance expenditure on maintenance and no contribution can be made towards capital cost.

The quality of the water is good but is too hard for comfort. During the year 9 samples were taken for analysis, the result of which generally shewed an absence of B. coli in 100 c.c.s.

B. SPECIAL SERVICES.

WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

78. Included in the list of new buildings erected during the year were 3 schools, four sets of quarters and a new set of coolie lines. Towards the end of the year preparations were made on the site of the new Government Offices to be erected in 1356. A sum of $44,525 was spent under this Head.

ROADS, STREETS AND BRIDGES.

79. Work on the new road to Kuala Perlis, estimated to cost $170,000 was continued throughout the year, the expenditure during 1355 being $34,918. As this road runs largely through bendang land, surveying and earthwork is generally confined to the drier months of January to June. During the first few months of 1355, the earthwork for the first half of the road and the survey of the 2nd half for land acquisition were completed. Bridges and culverts on

Digitized by Google

the first half were also commenced. By January 1937, the land acquisition was practically completed and the earthwork, bridges and culverts of the 2nd section put in hand. By the end of the year, good progress has been made on the second section while the first section was being rolled preparatory to the first metalling.

WATERWORKS.

80. The total Special Service Expenditure on Waterworks was $2,007 which included the installation of a new supply to serve Kuala Perlis at a cost of $1,500. This supply is from a small spring in the Sungei Wei, and is carried a distance of about half a mile to the banks of the Perlis river, from where it is transported by boat to the Kuala about 3 miles away. As water had previously to be transported from Kangar, a considerable saving in the cost of water should be effected by this supply, which is free to the water boats. The health of the inhabitants at the Kuala should also improve as the tendency on the part of the poorer people to drink polluted water is reduced.

C. DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION.

81. Under this Heading, a sum of $4,342 was spent on Annually Recurrent works and $1,500 on Special Services.

There is, in Perlis, no proper system of irrigation or controlled drainage. In the past the Rayat has made dams which serve to irrigate lands in their immediate vicinity, but the greater part of the 42,000 acres of land used for padi cultivation rely purely upon rainfall. The practice followed in the past has been for the Government to construct permanent dams to replace temporary dams which have proved their usefulness. Two such dams were in course of construction at the end of the year.

With the improvement in the financial position it has been found possible to consider irrigation works of major importance which are intended to serve large tracts of country in the coastal region. Three serious floods which occurred between September and December, 1936 also emphasised the need for schemes of flood relief and during the latter end of the year preparations were set on foot for combined drainage and irrigation schemes which are estimated to cost $120, 000. To this end also, the Department framed a draft Enactment giving enabling powers for the proper control of rivers and canals.

Digitized by Google

D. Anti-malarial Work.

82. There are no permanent anti-malarial drainage works in the State. The Department, however, supplied labour as required by the Medical Department during the year for the cutting of earth drains and oiling ditches and advised generally on these matters.

E. Electrical.

83. Overloading and the threatened break down of the electrical plant at the Kota, Arau, led to the installation of a new 4 Kw. 110 volt, Lister Diesel Generator, with large storage batteries. This released the existing 2½ Kw. 110 volt Delco plant, which was transferred to the Hospital Compound at Kangar and serves the Hospital and the Quarters of the Executive Engineer and the Assistant Medical Officer.

The 32 volt Delco plant at the Residency was maintained in good order.

A full time Electrician was appointed during the year to supervise the plants in the State.

F. Workshops and Trade School.

84. The reorganisation of the costing system in the Workshops, commenced during 1354, was completed before the end of that year and a Workshop Suspense Account, which shewed a profit at the end of 1355 was opened. The total value of the work done during the year was $4,500.

The Workshops dealt satisfactorily with all repairs to plant and private cars.

The Malay apprentices in the Carpentry School continued to turn out a very good standard of work and, under the supervision of a Chinese Carpenter, dealt satisfactorily with furniture and heavy carpentry.

G. General.

85. The health and general conditions of the labour force remained satisfactory. Malay labour was used on road maintenance and on the earthwork of the new Kuala Perlis Road but the work of road remetalling continued to be carried out by Tamil labour. The average labour force during the year was as follows:—

Malays	72
Indians	35
Others	4

Digitized by Google

Prices remained fairly constant during the first 8 months but shewed a distinct tendency to rise during the latter end of the year. (the first three months of 1937).

The shortage of timber in the State became more acute and considerable delay was occasioned in completion of building contracts. Seasoned timber had to be obtained from Penang.

H. STAFF.

Mr. A. L. McClure was in charge of the Department throughout the year. The State Engineer, Kedah, continued to pay visits of inspection and advise where necessary.

CHAPTER XIII

JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISON.

COURTS.

86. The Courts Enactment of 1330 provides for the following Courts for the administration of civil and criminal law:—

The Court of the Raja in Council.

The Senior Court.

The Junior Court.

The Sheriah Court.

The Court of the Raja in Council consists of the State Council. It hears appeals from the Senior Court and decides cases referred to it by the Senior Court when the two members of that Court are unable to agree. No such reference was necessary during the year.

The Senior Court consists of a Judge appointed by the State Council sitting together with the Adviser or such other European Officer as the State Council may appoint in substitution for the Adviser in any particular proceeding. This Court has no original but has appellate civil jurisdiction. It has original and appellate criminal jurisdiction and deals with Administration Suits in which the value of the estate amounts to more than $1,000.

Digitized by Google

The Junior Court consists of Judges appointed by the State Council sitting singly. In its criminal jurisdiction its powers extend to fines of $250 and to imprisonment for a maximum period of one year. When any person in a trial before this Court has been convicted of an offence, the Judge, if he considers that his power of punishment is inadequate, may send the accused to the Senior Court for sentence. The civil jurisdiction of this Court is unlimited. Appeals lie to the Senior Court.

There are three Judges in the State who sit regularly.

The Sheriah Court consists of the Kathi or the Assistant Kathi and has jurisdiction over Mohammadans only in matters relating to marriage and divorce, control of children and the maintenance and due observance of the Mohammadan Faith. The Court can inflict fines not exceeding $15 or sentences to imprisonment not exceeding 14 days and can decide civil claims arising out of matters connected with the Mohammadan Religion where the amount in dispute does not exceed $100.

Sentences of deaths and sentences of imprisonment for periods exceeding 5 years require to be confirmed by the State Council.

The Legal Adviser, Kedah, acts as Legal Adviser to the State.

87. The following is a record of the cases dealt with by the Courts in 1355.

CRIMINAL COURTS.

	Remaining over from 1354	Instituted 1355	Disposed of in 1355	Pending at end of 1355
Court of the Raja in Council ...	...	1	1	...
Senior Court (Appeals)	2	13	14	1
Senior Court ...	1	5	6	...
Junior Court ...	19	538	542	15
Sheriah Court ...	1	50	46	5

Digitized by Google

CIVIL COURTS.

	Remaining over from 1354	Instituted 1355	Disposed of in 1355	Pending at end of 1355
Court of the Raja in Council (Appeals) ...	...	2	2	...
Senior Court (Appeals)	1	49	45	5
Senior & Junior Courts (Administration Suits)	74	253	228	99
Junior Court ...	119	583	631	71
Sheriah Court ...	7	67	69	5

In the Criminal Appeals to the Court of the Raja, a conviction of murder was reduced to one of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. One judgment of the Senior Court in Civil Appeals was upheld and one varied.

In the Senior Court 5 Criminal Appeals were dismissed, 5 allowed and 4 decisions varied. Of the Civil Appeals 37 were dismissed, four allowed, 2 judgments varied and 2 cases were ordered to be retried.

Eleven enquiries into deaths by violence or accident were heard during the year.

Two cases of extradition under the Extradition Enactment, 1334 occurred during the year, each case being that of a Siamese subject extradited at the request of the Siamese Government.

RE-ORGANISATION IN THE COURTS.

88. The Criminal Procedure Code, 1329 and the Courts Enactment, 1330 were amended during the year and the Court Fees Enactment, 1337 was repealed and re-enacted. A Committee was appointed to draft a new Civil Procedure Code.

A new and simpler system of deposit accounts, based on that in force in the Federated Malay States, was introduced; the existing records were overhauled and re-arranged during the year; new forms based on modern practice were put into use and a more up to date and more advanced form of registers provided; rules for the care, use and keeping of files in connection with civil and

Digitized by Google

administration suits were drawn up and the procedure for the sending up of records of proceedings from the Junior to the Senior Court in appeal cases was regulated as well as the procedure for the receipt and disposal of applications for Letters of Administration. In this last connexion Penghulus of Mukims were instructed to investigate and report on the number of persons who had died without administration suits in respect of their property being instituted. Rules were also made and prescribed for the conduct of attachment and sale of property.

By the introduction of method and system into Court practice, the business of the Department is now being despatched more expeditiously than previously.

When it is appreciated that the population of the State is 50,000, that the people of Perlis are famed for their litigiousness and for their grim determination to fight out every and any dispute in the Courts and that all cases, criminal or civil, large or small can only be dealt with by the Courts it will also be appreciated that there is ample need for three Courts in the State. The revenue from the Department was $13,612 as against $11,933 in the previous year.

POLICE.

89. The total strength of the Police Force at the end of 1355 was 74 all ranks, including 3 officers. The Force is in charge of a Malay Officer styled the Chief of Police and consists of the following personnel:—

Chief of Police	1
Inspector	1
Sub-Inspector	1
Sergeant	1
Corporals	2
Lance Corporals	5
Constables	63

In the Force there are also one Detective Sergeant, two Detective Police Constables and one Veterinary Constable.

90. The Police Force is distributed among 7 Stations, all (with the exception of Padang Besar) being in telephonic communication with the Headquarters at Kangar. The Headquarters of the Force are still in temporary buildings, but on completion of the new Government Offices, a site will be available for the new Station on the land occupied by the present Offices.

Digitized by Google

A retired Inspector of the Police Service of the Federated Malay States was engaged as Personal Assistant to the Chief of Police during the year. Two men joined the Force and there were no dismissals, deaths, desertions or resignations. The health of the Force remained good.

Steps were taken during the year to select a suitable site for a rifle range at Bukit Lagi to provide musketry training and it is hoped that practice will commence in 1356.

91. 644 reports of cases were received during the year being an increase of 74 on the number received during 1354. 318 arrest cases involving 480 persons were brought before the Courts and of these 390 persons were convicted and 90 discharged. One report of murder was received during the year but the Accused was acquitted as the only evidence against him was that of an accomplice. He was later extradited to Siam. There were two reports of robberies and ten reports of cattle thefts. There was a large increase in the number of cases of rubber smuggling into Siam. Of twelve reports of House Breaking and Theft, eight were brought before the Court and convictions obtained.

99 summons cases were brought before the Court, convictions being obtained in 72 cases.

Four applications for Orders of Banishment were made during the year.

Mui Tsai.

92. The Department administers the legislation in respect of Mui Tsai. The Protector of Chinese, Kedah, visited Perlis at the beginning of the year and inspected the 19 Mui Tsai in the State. Other inspections have been made during the year by the Adviser and by the Chief of Police. No prosecutions have taken place under the Enactment.

Alien Immigration.

93. Control of Alien Immigration is exercised at Kangar, Padang Besar, Kuala Perlis and Kuala Sanglang. During the year 1936, 1,846 entry permits were issued and 77 refused. 139 Certificates of Admission were issued but no certificates of Residence were granted.

By an arrangement with the Government of Kedah, the International Express which passes through Perlis from Bangkok twice weekly is inspected by Kedah Immigration Officials who issue the necessary permits and collect the required deposits.

Digitized by Google

General.

94. (i) The Police Department also undertakes the Registration of Births and Deaths in the State and is responsible for the Veterinary Work, the Licensing of firearms, Registration of vehicles, Supervision of weights and measures and the Licensing of dogs. The control of Forests has been handed over to the Land Office.

(ii) 1,781 births were registered in 1355 as follows:—

	Males.	Females.
Malays	766	680
Chinese	138	121
Indians	14	10
Others	26	26

993 deaths were registered during the year as follows:—

	Males.	Females.
Malays	378	335
Chinese	180	59
Indians	10	..
Others	13	18

(iii) There were no cattle epidemics during the year. 4,062 Cattle Licences and Transfers were issued. 156 head of cattle were exported. It is the policy of the State to control export of Stock which is of great value to the agricultural community. There was little import of live-stock.

The disease of Rabies was prevalent in the State and 1,358 dogs were destroyed.

(iv) 528 firearms were licensed during the year as against 442 in 1354.

(v) The following vehicles were registered during the year in comparison with 1354.

	1354.	*1355.*
Motor Cars	125	131
„ Lorries	21	25
„ Cycles	11	8

Fees collected in this connexion amounted to $7,394 as against $6,525 in 1354.

Digitized by Google

(vi) The Revenue of the Department from fees of all sources was $10,673, an increase of almost $1,000 over the 1354 figure.

The total expenditure of the Department was $39,794, being the same as that of the preceding year.

PRISON.

95. There is one Prison in the State, situated at Kangar, in which long sentence, short sentence and remand prisoners are detained. There are also lock up cells in the Kangar Hospital to which prisoners may be transferred for medical treatment. The British Adviser is the Superintendent and he is assisted by a Gaoler, three N.C.O's, one Sikh and eleven Malay warders.

96. The daily average number of prisoners in 1355 was 32 as against 26 in 1354. The prisoners committed to custody were classified as follows:—

Criminals.	Safe Custody.	Debtors.	Vagrants.	Total.
136	97	19	1	253

180 Prisoners were detained during the year. 146 were released, 1 transferred (a harmless lunatic) and 1 escaped from custody while in the Hospital. 32 remained in Gaol at the end of the year. There were no executions, suicides or deaths during the year.

97. The health of prisoners continued to be satisfactory, the total number admitted into hospital being 38 as against 37 in 1354. The prevalent diseases were those of the respiratory system, Malaria and Influenza.

98. As far as labour and industries are concerned, the work in the Gaol includes rice milling, rotan work, carpentry, the making of chicks, notice and licence boards, book-binding and tailoring. Extra-mural work such as scavenging, earthworks, grass cutting and gardening is carried out. The tasks allotted are those which are considered to be best suited to the type of criminal found in the State.

99. Padi is milled in the Gaol and during the year 4,240 gantangs were milled into 2,004 gantangs of rice and sold for $317, an increase on the 1354 figure. Surplus vegetables from the Prison garden were also sold. Government Departments are supplied with Gaol manufactures and the sale of these realised $406 against $337 in the previous year.

Digitized by Google

100. There is no separate accommodation for juvenile prisoners but such offenders are normally sent to the Reformatory School in Singapore. There were no such prisoners during the year. There was one female prisoner who was detained in a separate building adjacent to the Gaol under the charge of the wife of a warder.

101. The total expenditure of the Department was $10,236 as against $9,827 in the previous year. The increase was due to the purchase of Greener Guns to replace the rifles previously carried by the warders.

CHAPTER XIV

LEGISLATION.

102. All legislation is drafted in English and then translated into Malay. The Malay version is the official one. During the year 22 Enactments were passed as follows:—

Enactment No.	1.	Treaty of Peace (Covenant of the League of Nations) (Amendment).
Enactment No.	2.	Maintenance of Orders.
Enactment No.	3.	Statutory Declarations.
Enactment No.	4.	Land Revenue Act (Amendment).
Enactment No.	5.	Motor Cars (Amendment).
Enactment No.	6.	Petition Writers (Amendment).
Enactment No.	7.	Fish Tanks.
Enactment No.	8.	Land Tenure Regulation (Amendment).
Enactment No.	9.	Treaty of Peace (Covenant of the League of Nations) (Repeal).
Enactment No.	10.	Land Titles.
Enactment No.	11.	Rubber Regulation (Amendment).
Enactment No.	12.	Land Titles (Amendment).
Enactment No.	13.	Women and Girls' Protection (Amendment).
Enactment No.	14.	Mining (Amendment).
Enactment No.	15.	Rubber Regulation (Amendment).

Digitized by Google

Enactment No. 16.	Courts (Amendment).
Enactment No. 17.	Court Fees.
Enactment No. 18.	Tea Control.
Enactment No. 19.	Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment).
Enactment No. 20.	Registration of Cattle.
Enactment No. 21.	Police Force (Amendment).
Enactment No. 22.	Ruling House Allowances.

103. The most important of the above Enactments were the following:—

No. 3. The Statutory Declarations Enactment, 1355.

This was framed to allow for the making of Declarations other than those provided for in the Affirmations Enactment, 1337.

No. 5. The Motor Cars (Amendment) Enactment, 1355.

The use of heavy oil engines in motor vehicles threatened a serious loss to revenue and it was decided to tax heavy oil engined vehicles to recoup this loss.

No. 10. The Land Titles Enactment, 1355.

This Enactment repealed and re-enacted with amendments the Land Titles Enactment, 1341. Under the new law power was given to divide the Territory of the State into Mukims and to declare Township and village Areas; land was classified for the purpose of issuing different forms of titles; Mukim Registers were introduced as titles for small holdings instead of Small Grants; amendments were made to the form of Large Grants; and provision was made for dealing with cases of loss of documents of titles to land.

No. 11. The Rubber Regulation (Amendment) Enactment, 1355.

This allowed for the formation of a Malayan Rubber Fund to be controlled and administered by the Chief Controller with the advice of an Advisory Committee.

No. 14. The Mining (Amendment) Enactment, 1355.

By this law women and boys under the age of 16 years are prohibited from being employed on underground work in a mine.

Digitized by Google

No. 18. The Tea Control Enactment, 1355.

The object of this legislation was to provide a simplified form of control over the production of tea by restricting planting and prohibiting the export of Seed.

No. 19. The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Enactment, 1355.

This Enactment amended the Code of 1329 and embodied the following main provisions:—

(i) Right of accused to claim trial;

(ii) The duty of the Court to acquit accused when no case has been made out for the prosecution, and power to acquit at any previous stage of a case if the charge appears groundless;

(iii) Power to amend charges;

(iv) Right of Prosecuting Officer to Cross Examine accused;

(v) The duty of the Court to explain to accused when he enters upon his defence that he can elect to speak either from the dock or from the witness box or to say nothing;

(vi) The right to reply;

(vii) The keeping of a record of particulars of cases;

(viii) Procedure for proper enquiries into deaths;

(ix) Procedure for appeals.

No. 20. The Registration of Cattle Enactment, 1355.

Previously cattle in the State have been licensed but it is now proposed to introduce a system of free registration of cattle in each Mukim. This change was made as cattle breeding plays an important part in the agricultural life of the peasant in the State and ownership of cattle is not therefore considered to be a fit subject for any form of taxation.

No. 22. The Ruling House Allowances Enactment, 1355.

Although Ruling House Allowances have been paid in the past no formal law had been framed to regulate them.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XV

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

104. The Revenue of the State is derived from the following main sources:—

(*a*) *Land*: State land is alienated for small agricultural holdings at a premium varying from $3 to $15 a relong and at a rent of 50 cents a relong a year. In cases where the approved applicants are unable to pay the premia (which include fees for survey) a sum equal to 5% of the total premium is added to the annual rent until the full premium is paid.

In the case of mining land, no premium is charged in view of the policy of the Government to issue certificates for short term leases (5 years only). A fee of $3 a relong is charged, however, to cover cost of demarcation. Rent is charged at the rate of $1 a relong. In the case of renewal of certificates $1 a relong is charged.

(*b*) *Customs*: The following is a summary of the Customs Tariff in force during the year:—

TABLE A.

IMPORT DUTIES.

DESCRIPITON OF ARTICLES	Unit	RATES OF DUTY	
		Full Duty	Preferential Duty
I. INTOXICATING LIQUORS.		$ c.	$ c.
(*a*) Rectified Spirit ...	per proof gallon	14 00	
(*b*) Brandy and any other intoxicating liquor not hereinafter provided for	„	14 00	10 50
(*c*) Brandy in bottle and accepted by the Collector as not exceeding 81% of proof spirit	per gallon	10 50	8 00
(*d*) Whisky, rum and gin ...	per proof gallon	13 00	
(*e*) Whisky, rum and gin in bottle and accepted by the Collector as not exceeding 81% of proof spirit ...	per gallon	9 50	

Digitized by Google

TABLE A.—(*contd.*)

Description of Articles	Unit	Rates of Duty	
		Full Duty	Preferential Duty
		$ c.	$ c.
I. Intoxicating Liquors(*Contd.*)			
(*f*) Toddy, arrack, saki and samsu including medicated samsu	per proof gallon	12 00	
(*g*) Bitters and liquors not exceeding 100% of proof spirit	per gallon	13 00	
(*h*) Sparkling wines not exceeding 42% of proof spirit ...	,,	6 00	5 00
(*i*) Still wines exceeding 26% but not exceeding 42% of proof spirit	,,	4 50	3 90
(*j*) Still wines not exceeding 26% of proof spirit ...	,,	1 50	90
(*k*) Ale, beer, stout, porter, cider and perry	,,	1 30	1 20
II. Tobacco.			
(*a*) Cigars and snuff ...	per lb.	1 60	
(*b*) Cigarettes	,,	1 10	1 00
(*c*) Unmanufactured tobacco ...	,,	70	
(*d*) Manufactured tobacco excluding cigars, cigarettes and snuff :—			
(i) Imported for sale in air tight tins or containers ...	,,	1 10	1 00
(ii) not otherwise provided for	,,	80	

Digitized by Google

TABLE A.—(*contd.*)

Description of Articles	Unit	Rates of Duty	
		Full Duty	Preferential Duty
III. Miscellaneous.		$ c.	$ c.
Brassware, bronze and bronze copper, and copper wares ...	ad valorem	15%	5%
Cartridges	per 1,000	11 00	10 00
Coffee	per kati	04	03
Piece goods made of Silk, Cotton, Linen, Artificial Silk, and all mixtures made of Cotton, Linen, Artificial Silk and, or other materials	ad valorem *or* per yard	20% or 5 cents per yard whichever is higher.	10% or 2½ c's. per yard whichever is higher.
Cotton, Linen, Jute, Silk or Artificial Silk, Felt, Flannel, Woollen and all Textile Goods made from Plant Fibres, whether finished goods or not, other than Yarn, Thread, Gunnies, and Waste, except as provided above	ad valorem	20%	10%
Fishmaws and sharksfins ...	,,	15%	5%
Groundnuts	per lb.	02	01
Groundnut oil, kachang and gingelly oil	,,	04	02
Matches	per 10,000 sticks	1 00	
Methylated spirit	per gallon	05	
Milk condensed and powdered ...	per lb.	05	01
Motor tyres and inner tubes ...	ad valorem	20%	Free
Paraffin wax	,,	15%	5%
Perfumery	,,	50%	25%
Petrol	per gallon	35	

Digitized by Google

TABLE A.—(*contd.*)

Description of Articles	Unit	Rates of Duty	
		Full Duty	Preferential Duty
III. Miscellaneous—(*Cont'd.*)		$ c.	$ c.
Petroleum other than Petrol ...	per gallon	10	
Rubber boots and shoes, and canvas boots and shoes, shoes with rubber soles	per pair	50	10
Sugar and sugar mixed with water	per lb.	03	
Tanned hides and skins ...	ad valorem	15%	5%
Tea	per lb.	08	06
Fruits, Jams, Marmalade, Vegetables, Fish, Meats and Soups in metal, glass or earthenware containers	ad valorem	20%	5%
Padi	per pikul	25	15
Rice	,,	25	15

TABLE B.

I. Export Duties.

Articles	Duty
	$ *cts.*
Arecanuts	2½% ad valorem
Coconut.	2½% ,,
Copra	2½% ,,
Pepper	2½% ,,
Tobacco	2½% ,,
Rice—	
(*a*) Rice	16 per pikul
(*b*) Padi	10 ,,
(*c*) Broken rice	5 ,,
(*d*) Bran	3 ,,
Tapioca	3% ad valorem

Digitized by Google

TABLE B.—(*contd.*)

EXPORT DUTIES—(*Contd.*)

ARTICLES	DUTY
	$ *cts.*

Scale of Export Duties on Rubber with effect from 15th Rejab, 1355 (1st. October, 1936).

Export duties are levied at the following percentage ad valorem rates according to the price of rubber in cents per ℔. :—

Under 20 cents	1%
20 cents and under 22 cents ...	1½%
22 „ „ 24 „	1¾%
24 „ „ 26 „	2%
26 „ „ 28 „	2¼%
28 „ „ 30 „	2½%
30 „ „ 35 „	3%
35 „ over per pound ...	3¼%

II. FOREST PRODUCE.

ARTICLES	Duty	
	$ *cts.*	
Attap (Nipah and Rembia)	5%	ad valorem
Leaves (Nipah and Rembia)	5%	„
Bamboos	5%	„
Damar	5%	„
Rattans	5%	„
Beeswax	5%	„
Honey	5%	„
Timber	10%	„
Getah Jelutong (Jelutong rubber) ...	5%	„
Getah Rambong (India rubber) ...	5%	„
Nipah Juice	5%	„

Digitized by Google

TABLE B.—(*contd.*)

III. Live Stock.

Articles	Duty	
	$ *cts.*	
Buffaloes	1	per head
Bullocks	1	,,
Pigs	1	,,
Sheep and goats	25	per head
Fowls, geese and chickens	5	each
Pigeons	1	,,

IV. Minerals, Metals and Metalliferous Ores.

	$ *cts.*	
Coal	2	per pikul
Tin	10%	ad valorem
Tin-ore	72%	of the duty on tin
All other metals and metalliferous ores ...	10%	ad valorem
Galena	1	per ton

V. Marine Produce.

	$ *cts.*	
Sea fish, crabs, prawns and shell fish (fresh)	20%	ad valorem
Sea fish, crabs, prawns and shell fish (dried or salted)	20%	,,
Sharksfins	20%	,,
Blachan	20%	,,
Fish refuse	20%	,,
Fresh river and pond fish	10%	,,
Fresh river and pond fish (dried or salted)	10%	,,
Beche-de'mer and Fish maws ...	10%	,,

Digitized by Google

TABLE B.—(*contd.*)

VI. MISCELLANEOUS.

ARTICLES	DUTY	
	$ *cts.*	
Elephant	20%	ad valorem
Tusks	10%	,,
Bones, hides and horns	2	per pikul
Bricks and tiles	5%	ad valorem
Fat and tallow	2	per pikul
Phosphates (Baja Bukit)	10%	ad valorem
Eggs	10	per hundred
Kambing Gurun (dead or alive) ...	20	per head or portion

A Cess of .05 cent per pound of rubber was levied on all rubber exported from the State under the provisions of the Rubber Regulation Enactment, with effect from 15th Rejab, 1355 (1st October, 1936).

(*c*) *Chandu*: Chandu, or specially prepared opium, is bought from the Government of the Straits Settlements and is retailed at the rate of 26 cents a tube of 2 hoons.

10,444 tahils were sold in 1355 as against 10,998 in 1354. The revenue derived therefrom was $135,781. The number of Government retail shops (Police or Customs Stations) remained at 6. The number of registered smokers at the end of the year was 360.

(*d*) *Excise*: Annual fees are charged for licences to sell intoxicating liquors. The revenue in 1355 was approximately the same as in 1354.

Toddy is not sold to the public.

(*e*) *Forests*: Revenue is collected by means of monthly permits varying from $2 to $10 a month issued for the extraction of all classes of timber. Fees are also collected on other jungle produce. There was a marked increase in the revenue from this branch which amounted to $1,685 as against $799 in the preceding year.

(*f*) *Municipal*: Municipal revenue is derived mainly from the following items:—

(i) *House Assessment*: A rate of 10% on the annual value of houses and buildings, no rate being charged on land either built on or vacant.

(ii) *Conservancy*: Fees are charged on a sliding scale according to the value of the houses served.

Digitized by Google

(iii) *Water Rate*: A rate is charged on a sliding scale according to the value of the houses. A special rate is fixed for water used for trade purposes.

(iv) Licences for special trades, Market Fees and Fees for slaughter of cattle and for other general purposes provide further sources of revenue.

The following table gives the main heads of municipal revenue collected in 1354 and 1355.

	1354.	*1355.*
House Assessment	$5,493	$7,477
Market Fees	$3,184	$3,444
Conservancy	$3,909	$4,420
Slaughter Fees	$2,947	$3,173
Private Water Supplies ..	$1,344	$2,832

The total revenue collected during the year by the Department was $23,582 as against $18,674 in 1354, a considerable increase.

ASSETS.

105. At the end of 1355 the assets of the State exceeded Liabilities by $541,885 (an increase of $93,579 on the previous year when the excess stood at $448,306), as shown in the following statement.

LIABILITIES	At end of 1355 (13-3-37)	ASSETS	At end of 1355 (13-3-37)
	$		$
		Cash in Treasury	13,246
		Cash at Banks ...	29,831
		Cash with Crown Agents ...	253,303
		Investments ...	497,754
Opium Revenue Replacement Fund	253,303	Suspense Account	6,712
Deposits ...	48,549	Advances ...	8,626
Excess of Assets ...	541,855	Loans ...	34,265
TOTAL ...	843,737	TOTAL ...	843,737

A more detailed statement giving a comparison with the 1354 position is given at Appendix A.

Digitized by Google

Revenue and Expenditure.

106. A statement of annual revenue and expenditure from A.H. 1330 (when Perlis first came under the suzerainty of Great Britain) is given in Appendix B. It is interesting to record that the revenue of 1355 exceeded any amount previously collected.

107. *Revenue*: The revenue for 1355 was $667,644, exceeding the amount estimated by $96,554. Details under each main head are given in Appendix C which also gives a comparison with 1354 revenue. The following table shows the revenue collected and the percentage of collections under the main heads of Revenue:—

Customs Export Duties ..	$123,901	18.56%
Customs Import Duties ..	$250,101	37.46%
Miscellaneous	$ 201	.03%
Opium Monopoly	$135,781	20.34%
Interest	$ 16,737	2.51%
Lands and Mines	$ 75,862	11.36%
Municipal	$ 23,583	3.53%
Other Heads	$ 41,478	6.21%
Total ..	$667,644	100%

It will be observed that as usual the largest sources of revenue were Customs duties and Chandu. The largest increase was in Customs duties, while chandu revenue showed a decrease from 1354. There was a substantial increase under Municipal while revenue from other sources remained fairly constant. One of the main items leading to the increase in Import Duties was (*a*) the charging of a duty on pure silk imported into the State and (*b*) the raising of the duty on textiles from Nil preferential and 10% foreign to 10% preferential and 20% foreign. Perlis alone of the States in Malaya had not imposed any duty on pure silk and had not adopted the tariffs generally in force throughout the country. During the course of the year the State adopted the rates of import duties which were in force in other States in respect of these commodities. The duty on the export of rice was raised from 10 cents a pikul to 16 cents a pikul with effect from 5th Rejab, 1355 (21st September, 1936).

Digitized by Google

108. *Expenditure*: The expenditure for 1355 was $574,065, exceeding that of the previous year by $55,346, but being less by $14,770 than the revised estimate of expenditure. The increase over 1354 was due in the main to the new service of a Road to Kuala Perlis. The following table gives the expenditure incurred and the percentage under Heads:—

Personal Emoluments ..	$251,334	43.78%
Ruling House Allowances, Pensions and Gratuity ..	$ 32,895	5.73%
Opium Revenue Replacement Fund	$ 12,000	2.09%
Other Charges	$123,655	21.54%
Special Expenditure ..	$ 17,692	3.08%
Public Works Annually Recurrent	$ 50,874	8.86%
Public Works Special Services	$ 85,615	14.92%
Total ..	$574,065	100%

A more detailed statement is given at Appendix D and a comparison between 1354 and 1355 figures.

The increase in expenditure was a normal one and is attributable to the gradual development of the State following on an increase in revenue over a period of several years.

109. *Investments*: A full statement will be found in Appendix A. The Opium Revenue Replacement Fund is in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies and a yearly sum of $12,000 is paid to this account, the interest being credited to the Fund. A sum of $253,303 stood to the credit of the Fund at the end of the year.

Other sums invested during the year were

$35,400 in Federated Malay States Government 3% Loan 1956/66.

$130,626 in Straits Settlements Government 3% Loan 1962/72.

Digitized by Google

110. *Public Debt*: It was possible to record at the end of 1354 that the State had no public debt and this is virtually correct so far as the end of the financial year 1355 is concerned. It must be stated however that a loan of $100,000 has been sought from the Government of the Straits Settlements in order to complete the productive work of the road to Kuala Perlis and that this has now been sanctioned. It has been the aim of the State to achieve a surplus of $750,000 before embarking on special works of a large nature. Including the balance standing to the credit of the Opium Revenue Replacement Fund, this figure was reached at the end of 1355 and with the large insurances of Reserves (mostly invested) and with the steadily increasing revenue, it was considered that the financial position of the State was satisfactory enough to justify the carrying out of certain very necessary schemes of Public Works such as new Government Offices, Flood Relief and Irrigation Schemes and Improvements to the Water Supply, the further postponement of which would be adverse to the interests of the State. The road to the Kuala was estimated to cost $170,000 and approximately $70,000 of this would have been voted by the end of the year. The continued yearly surpluses of the State indicated that the repayment from revenue of a loan drawn to complete the balance of the work would present no difficulties, while the Reserves would still remain intact. The Government of the Straits Settlements was therefore approached and a loan of $100,000 with interest at 3%, repayable in 10 yearly instalments of $10,000 plus interest, commencing with repayment of interest only in December 31st, 1937, was approved during the current year. With the funds thus made available it has been possible to enter in the 1356 Budget first instalments of provision for the new items set out above. There is no reason to fear that the Budget for 1937 will not be balanced and it can be said that the financial position of the State is satisfactory.

CHAPTER XVI

MISCELLANEOUS.

A. Lands and Mines.

111. The total area of the State is 310 square miles of which approximately 50 square miles is under reserved Forests, 87 square miles alienated for agriculture and approximately 5 square miles held under titles for mining. Of the balance portions are occupied unlawfully or, if not actually occupied, are claimed owing to the existence of fruit trees.

Digitized by Google

112. Nearly all agricultural holdings alienated prior to 1335 were held under old grants. These varied in form according to the period during which they were issued. It seems that title deeds for land were issued as far back as 1290 A.H. in the reign of the first Raja of Perlis, Syed Hussin. The old documents were hand written and some make interesting reading. Two specimens of these early day title deeds are included as Appendices E and F to this report in Romanised Malay (with an English Translation) as a matter of interest.

113. Land alienated in 1335 A.H. and thereafter was entered in the Register of Milek pending demarcation or survey. Both the Old Grants (" Grant Banchi " or " Grant Lama " as they are generally called) and the Registers of Milek were to be replaced by " Small grants " or " Large grants " under the Land Titles Enactment, 1341, according as to whether the land was demarcated or surveyed by the Survey Office. No " Large grants " were ever issued, though some of the holdings had been surveyed.

A change has been introduced, however, during the year under review when on the 6th Jemadilakhir (24th August, 1936) the Land Titles Enactment was repealed and re-enacted with amendments (Enactment No. 10 of 1355). This new Enactment provides among other matters that the final titles for alienated Country land not exceeding 100 relongs in area shall be by entry in Mukim Registers while the titles for Town land and for Country land exceeding 100 relongs in area shall be " Large Grants ". The introduction of the Mukim Register is considered to be an important step forward in the Land Administration of the State.

114. The following table shows the number of holdings in the State and their aggregate areas at the end of 1355.

Forms of Title	No. of holdings	Total Area	
		R.	J.
Old Grant	9,827	30,275	244
Small Grant	7,177	17,736	029
Register Milek	5,249	25,157	319
Large Grant	7		175
Entries in the Mukim Register	124	195	399
Total ...	22,384	73,465	198

Digitized by Google

In addition to the above there were 6,984 Temporary Occupation Licences on the Register. This number has increased during the year owing to action being taken against unlawful occupiers of State Land. In the majority of cases they will be replaced by permanent titles in due course.

115. It was decided during the year to recall old grants for which no copies existed in the Land Office and exchange them for entries in the Register of Milek pending demarcation and the preparation of permanent titles. This was considered desirable in view of the possibility of complications which might arise in the future in the event of the issue copies of such grants being lost or destroyed. During the year 1,370 such old grants were exchanged for entries in the Register of Milek.

116. The repeal of the Fish Tanks Enactment, 1333, gave the Land Office opportunity to let out rights to take fish from Fish Tanks on State Land for one season only. This new procedure led to a large increase of revenue under this Head.

117. In 1344 the minimum rates of premium on alienation of State Land for agricultural purposes were fixed as follows:—

A. For Rubber cultivation.

(i) For areas up to 15 relongs .. $10 a relong.

(ii) For areas from 15 to 100 relongs .. .. $15 ,,

(iii) For areas over 100 relongs.. $25 ,,

B. For Bendang land (any area) .. $ 3 ,,

C. For Kampong and other cultivation.

(i) For areas up to 50 relongs.. $ 5 ,,

(ii) For areas over 50 relong .. $10 ,,

In alienation the minimum rate is usually charged.

D. Town lots are alienated at varying prices up to 10 cents a square foot.

Digitized by Google

The rents on agricultural land are as follows:—

(i) For rubber cultivation $1 a relong a year.

(ii) For bendang and other cultivation .. 50 cents a relong a year.

(iii) In the case of land alienated for kampong and cultivation other than padi; if the area exceeds 15 relongs, the rent is $1 a relong a year.

Town lots are charged a rental of $2 a year for a lot of 2,400 square feet or less.

The rent charged on mining land is $1 a relong. No premium is charged.

118. The Application Books for Agricultural land remained closed throughout the year except to applications who had occupied State land for a period of years without authority. 252 applications for small holdings for a total area of 421 Relongs were received during the year. These were for the cultivation of wet padi or for Kampong purposes. No land was alienated for rubber cultivation during the year.

From the first Shawal (1st June, 1936) the planting of tea in the State was prohibited by law except under and in accordance with the conditions of a licence granted by the Controller with the approval of the State Council.

119. Land for Mining purposes is generally given out on short term leases of 5 years. Owing to the paucity and unreliability of the old records of mining land and in view of the frequent dispute regarding such land, which usually develop into long drawn out litigation before the Court or into equally protracted consideration by the State Council, it was considered desirable to have all demarcation of newly approved applications for mining land undertaken by the Survey Department instead of by the Mining Overseer before any title was issued. Such survey will ensure more accuracy, a permanent and reliable record will become available for future needs and the land will be properly shown on the office plans of the State.

Digitized by Google

B. Re-organisation of the Land Office.

120. Re-organisation work followed the lines indicated in the report for the preceding year. The most notable feature was the bringing into use of Mukim Registers and a new form of "Large Grant". The draft of a new Land Enactment, modelled largely on that of Kedah, was completed and is being examined prior to consideration by the State Council. When this becomes law, the practice of the Perlis Land Office will be more in common with that in force in the more up to date State in Malaya. The progress achieved is reflected in the fact that whereas during the last 8 years the average arrears of Land Rents carried forward from year to year were $17,000, the arrears brought forward to 1356 from 1355 were only $3,000.

C. Surveys.

121. The Survey Department is under the supervision of the Superintendent of Surveys, Kedah, and all office work is done in the Kedah Survey Office.

122. Small holdings are demarcated in groups of contiguous lots, each group being named "Lengkongan". Lengkongan are numbered serially in each Mukim. At the end of the year there were 26,601 demarcated lots and 299 surveyed portions as compared with 26,503 lots and 76 portions at the close of the previous year.

The Survey Office is ahead of the Land Office in the demarcation of agricultural holdings, as the latter office has been unable to catch up with the arrears in registration of titles. During the year a large number of forms of small grants which were waiting registration and which are not to be registered, were returned to the Survey Office to be exchanged for forms of extracts from the Mukim Register.

123. Survey of the Sanitary Board Boundaries of Kangar and Arau, a detailed survey of Kaki Bukit village, six groups of Lengkongans and several mining surveys were carried out at a cost of $2,352. A Kedah Surveyor was engaged entirely on Perlis surveys from the middle of Safar to the end of the year.

Seven Large grants in duplicate and 576 Extracts from the Mukim Register were received from the Survey Office during the year. The Office also completed a map of Perlis State on a scale of 4 miles to an inch which is reproduced in this Report.

The total expenditure of the Department was $12,476.

Digitized by Google

D. Forests.

124. The work in connection with Forestry was transferred from the Police Department to the Land Office on 1st Jemadilawal, 1355 (20th July, 1936). An additional Forest Guard was appointed on 1st Sha'aban, 1355 and a new area containing approximately 11 square miles of jungle was created a Forest Reserve (Bukit Bintang), making the total area of Reserved Forest in the State 50 square miles approximately.

The revenue collected during the year was $1,685 against $799 collected in the previous year.

E. Rubber Regulation.

125. Regulation of the production and export of rubber is controlled by Enactment No. 3 of 1353. This legislation is almost identical with that in force in the Federated Malay States.

On October 1st, 1936 the principal Enactment was amended to permit of the formation of a Malayan Rubber Fund (as opposed to a local Fund) to be controlled and administered by the Chief Controller with the advice of an Advisory Committee appointed by the Governor and High Commissioner. On the same date, the Cess levied under the Enactment was separated from Export Duty, the former being fixed at a sum not exceeding two cents a pound of rubber and the latter being fixed on a sliding scale.

Subsequently on the 6th November, 1936 the amount of Cess leviable was reduced to .5 of a cent a pound of rubber, with a minimum of 2 cents, exported under the provision of the Enactment.

The administration of Rubber Regulation in respect of small holdings is carried out by the Land Office.

F. Sanitary Board.

126. The Perlis Sanitary Board consists of ten members of whom five, including the Chairman, are Government Officers and five unofficials. Members are appointed by the State Council for a term of 3 years. Of the five unofficials four are Chinese and one Malay. The powers and duties of the Board are regulated by "The Sanitary Board Enactment, 1331" and the Sanitary Board Bylaws and Market Bylaws made under the Enactment. The control of the Board was handed over by the Chief of Police to the Commissioner of Lands and Mines during the course of the year.

Digitized by Google

127. There are four full Sanitary Board areas, namely (i) Kangar (ii) Arau (iii) Kaki Bukit and (iv) Padang Besar.

There are also two controlled building areas (i) Mata Ayer Village and (ii) Kuala Perlis new village area.

In addition to the above, the village of Kuala Sanglang and all land within 100 feet of the centre of any metalled road upkept by the Government are subject to the Board's Control in regard to Sanitary Conditions of premises and the sale of food and drink.

128. In the full Sanitary Board area the following services are given:—

(*a*) Scavanging.

(*b*) Street lighting.

(*c*) Conservancy.

The Kangar, Arau and Padang Besar areas are also provided with piped water supplies.

Kangar and Arau are lit by Petromax Lamps while Kaki Bukit and Padang Besar are lit by ordinary oil lamps.

The revenue derived from the Sanitary Board is set out under Chapter XV (Finance and Taxation).

129. No vital statistics are available in regard to Health but there was no outbreak of any infectious diseases in any of the areas. Cases of Malaria occurred in Sanitary Board Areas especially in Kaki Bukit and a certain amount of anti-malarial oiling was carried out by a gang operating under the direction and supervision of the Medical Department.

Lack of funds has hitherto prevented the provision of concrete drains throughout the areas, these being provided in Kangar and Arau only.

130. 16 applications to erect new buildings and 70 applications to repair or renew existing buildings were approved by the Board.

Digitized by Google

The following Sanitary Board buildings were erected during the year:—

A Fish Market at Kangar.

A Market at Kaki Bukit.

Cooly lines for Sanitary Board Coolies at Arau.

Public Latrine at Kaki Bukit.

Horsfall Destructor and drying shed at Jejawi.

A new private slaughter house for cattle was erected at Kaki Bukit.

Minor amendments to the Bylaws were made during the year. These included provision for the licensing of street hawkers.

Two extensions of the Kangar Sanitary Board Area were approved.

131. The revenue collected by the Board amounted to $23,583 as against $18,674 in the preceding year. The most notable increase was under House Assessment under which Head the sum of $7,477 was collected as against $5,493 in 1354.

Co-operative Societies.

132. The Co-operative Societies Department, since its inception in 1345, has been under the charge of an officer who received training in the Co-operative Societies Department of the Federated Malay States. The records and transactions of the societies were kept according to the Islamic Calendar, the official calendar of the State.

133. The following figures give a summary of the activities of the societies during the last five years:—

All Societies	1351	1352	1353	1354	1355
Number of Societies ...	14	16	19	18	19
Membership ...	565	526	560	491	530
Total working Capital	$57,557	$52,113	$55,958	$53,078	$61,351

Digitized by Google

134. The societies in 1355 were composed of two urban societies, namely The Perlis Government Servants' Co-operative Thrift and Loan Society, Ltd., The Perlis Government Labourers' Co-operative Credit Society, Ltd., and 17 rural societies.

135. The Perlis Government Servants' Co-operative Thrift and Loan Society had a membership of 134 and paid-up subscriptions of $27,414 at the end of the year as against 120 members and $23,977 in subscriptions in the previous year. The Reserve Fund rose from $4,172 in 1354 to $4,335 in 1355. The financial position of the society was very satisfactory. It invested $15,000 in the 3% F.M.S. Loan 1936, and at the end of the year had a cash balance of $5,248 in current account at the Mercantile Bank, Penang, apart from $4,293 deposited in the Government Savings Bank. Outstanding loans stood at $13,220. It is most gratifying to record that since the inception of this society in 1345, it has suffered no loss whatever through non-payment of loans granted to its members. The society earned a profit of $1,018, and after expenses amounting to $480, there was a balance of $538 available for distribution as dividend on the paid-up subscription as it stood on 30th Jemadilakhir, 1355. This worked out at about 2%, as against the interest of 3% paid on deposits by the Government Post Office Savings Bank. As the society is now in its eleventh year and its members now financially more well-off, the amount of the dividend derived from the society is not very encouraging. The Co-operative Societies Department has drawn the attention of the Committee to the above fact and advised them to reduce the society's expenses so as to enable it to declare a better divident in future.

136. The Perlis Government Labourers' Co-operative Credit Society, Ltd., established in October 1934 (1353 A.H.) was originally started among the Public Works Department labourers, but in 1936 (1355 A.H.) by resolution of a general meeting, its membership was extended to all labourers in other departments. Consequently the name of the society was changed to the present one. At the end of the year membership was 91 as against 81 in the previous year. The paid-up subscription increased to $3,749 from $1,870 and the Reserve Fund amounted to $24 as against $8 in 1354. The members continued to take a keen interest in the welfare and progress of the society.

137. There were 17 rural credit societies on the register at the end of the year, an increase of one over the number of the previous year. Four of them have been established for more than ten years. There were 305 members in all rural societies with a share capital of $16,149 and a Reserve Fund of $9,163. As was remarked

Digitized by Google

in last year's report the progress of these societies is very slow, and a great deal of patience and preseverance is necessary to instil into the members, who are poor and illiterate, the habits of providence and thrift. It is, however, worthy of note that in kampongs where these societies exist there is generally a better social feeling and a more neighbourly spirit prevails among the inhabitants.

138. *Weekly fairs*: The number of weekly fairs remained the same during the year, *i.e.* 12 in all. Nine of them were run by members of the rural credit societies and three by private individuals. There was more and better business done in the weekly fairs during the year, but this does not imply any increased business activity on the part of Malays. 'Big scale' business of cloth selling and the sale of foreign goods were in the hands of foreigners and in this connection Malay traders continued their policy of non-intervention. The piece goods merchants and dealers in foreign goods can sell on an average about $50 and $60 worth of goods a day and on festival days, especially at Hari Rayas, as much as $100 or more a day. Although the Malays (including women) selling in the market were numerically superior, yet their individual earnings averaged only 30 or 40 cents a day. The trading done by them was mostly in agricultural produce, such as vegetables, tobacco, betel leaves and fruit grown in their own kampongs. Some sold cooked food of their own make and others dealt in beef or fish. Generally it can be said that the element of foreign competition has not proved an incentive to Malays to learn business, but merely an incentive to spend on imported luxuries. Up to the present the fairs have not had the desired effect of producing thrift.

The position came to the knowledge of the Government and a Committee was appointed to consider and report on the system of weekly markets controlled by Co-operative Societies in the State, with special reference to the desirability of these markets being conducted entirely by Malays, having in mind the existence of private markets at which non-Malays traded their goods. The Committee recommended that no person other than Malays or Perlis Siamese should be permitted to sell goods at the weekly fairs, while in the case of Siamese they should be permitted to deal only in goods made, or produce grown or fish or animals caught, within the State. It was also recommended that the sale of piece goods and other imported goods should be limited and that Government should make regulations for licensing

Digitized by Google

of hawkers and for controlling their activities on weekly fair days. The Committee considered that there should be no difference in treatment meted out to Co-operative and Private Fairs and that any regulations made should apply equally to both.

Consideration of the report was held over until 1356 in order to ascertain whether there was any strong indication that, by encouragement, the Malays would improve their position in the markets.

Zakat and Fitrah.

139. The origin and purpose of the collection of Zakat and Fitrah in the State was described in last year's report. $39,829 were collected by the Committee during the year and expenditure on various activities connected with religious affairs amounted to $28,000. A further sum of $3,000 was reserved against failure of crops.

Walls and bridges were erected at the Alwi Mosque in Kangar; two new mosques were erected at Jelempok and Abi and five more were under construction. The erection of a Home for Decrepits was postponed until the completion of the Arabic School at Arau. The usual charities were dispensed to the poor on festivals and other occasions.

General.

140. His Highness the Raja received information on December 12th, 1936 that His Majesty King Edward VIII had renounced the throne and that His Royal Highness the Duke of York would succeed him with effect from December 12th as King George VI.

141. The Raja enjoyed good health throughout the year and celebrated his 54th birthday on the 11th Jemadil-awal, 1354 (30th July, 1936) with the usual ceremonies and entertainments. Their Highnesses the Regent and Raja Muda of Kedah visited Perlis on this day. His Highness visited Singapore and Kuala Lumpur in Muharram (April, 1936) and was the guest of the Governor of Setul towards the end of the year.

142. It was decided during the year that the Government Offices would be open daily during the Bulan Puasa for half a day instead of being open for a full day on three days of the week. As a result more business was transacted and there was a record collection of revenue during the month.

Digitized by Google

143. A Talkie Cinema was opened in Kangar in September, 1936 and provides a diversion for the people. Entertainments of this nature in Perlis have been few and far between in the past.

144. A donation of £500 was made by the State during the year to the King George V National Memorial Fund opened at the Mansion House.

145. Three heavy floods took place in Kangar in September, November and December, 1936. On the first occasion the rains begun in the hills where 7.43 inches of rain were recorded from September 22nd to 24th followed by 3.14 inches in Kangar and 4.03 inches at Arau on September 26th. The earlier rain was heavy and filled the rivers which were unable to cope with the abnormal rainfall of the 26th. The flood reached Kangar on the 28th after inundating the country side higher up the catchment. Rising tides served to delay the run-off and it was several days before the flooding ceased to be apparent. This flood was not severe in comparison with large floods in the past.

The flooding whch occurred in Kangar on November 2nd was of slightly less intensity and of shorter duration but in general affected the same areas. Road flooding in the locality of Kangar was confined to a short stretch of road near Simpang Tiga, to the 2nd and 3rd mile Kaki Bukit Road and to the Tebing Tinggi Road at about 2½. The rainfall causing the flooding was far less general over the State than on the occasion of the other two floods this year, but as before, heavy rain in the Kaki Bukit area concided with heavy rain in the Arau catchment. There was comparatively little rain in Kangar on the days preceding the flood.

The flood which commenced on November 28th was much more severe than those of September 26th and November 2nd, the water rising above the floor level of the Kangar Market and large stretches of the main road between Kangar and Simpang Tiga being flooded.

Digitized by Google

These floods are now expected annually and it is a matter of surprise if they do not occur. They are destructive to crops and harmful to health. The reasons for them are the convergence of all the main rivers of Perlis to a junction at Kangar and the inability of the Perlis River between Kangar and Tebing Tinggi to deal with any great excess flood without spreading over the surrounding land. They emphasise the necessity, however, of preventive measures and it is proposed to take steps to minimise flooding generally by improvements to the Perlis river, which is tidal as far as Kangar, and by the diversion of flood water from Kangar. These works are to be considered in connection with the development of irrigation works in the State.

146. The financial position of the State continues to improve and as a result of the careful control of finances in the past it has been possible in 1356 not only to carry out additional minor works of urgent necessity without encroaching upon Reserves, but also to plan and to make provision for expenditure on major works which will enhance the value of the State.

147. The thanks of the Government are again due to members of the unofficial community for the services rendered by them during the year. I also desire to express my sincere appreciation of the co-operation and assistance given to me by members of the Perlis Government Service throughout the year.

C. R. HOWITT,
British Adviser, Perlis.

KANGAR,

12th June, 1937.
2nd Rabialakhir, 1356.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at end of the years A. H. 1354 and 1355.

LIABILITIES	At end of 1354 5-4-35— 23-3-36	At end of 1355 24-3-36— 13-3-37	ASSETS	At end of 1354 5-4-35— 23-3-36	At end of 1355 24-3-36— 13-3-37
	$	$		$	$
			Cash in Treasury	13,688	13,246
Opium Revenue Replacement Fund ...	230,730	253,303	Cash at Banks	84,889	29,831
			Cash with Crown Agents ...	230,730	253,303
DEPOSITS			INVESTMENTS.		
			Municipal Debentures 5% Singapore ...	113,975	113,975
			Municipal Debentures 4¾% Penang ...	76,750	76,750
Courts	10,141	10,700	F. M. S. 4½% Loan @ Cost ...	49,000	49,000
Lands and Mines ...	8,267	9,360	Municipal Debentures 3% Singapore ...	92,003	92,003
Post Office	6,822	5,096	F. M. S. Government 3% Loan ...	...	35,400
Sundry	12,842	23,393	S. S. Government 3% Loan ...	...	130,626
			Suspense Account	10,331	6,712
			Advances	10,129	8,626
Excess of Assets ...	448,306	541,885	Loans	35,613	34,265
Total ...	717,108	843,737	Total ...	717,108	843,737

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX B.

Comparative Statement of Revenue and Expenditure from A. H. 1330.

A.H.	Revenue $	Expenditure $
1330	145,026	146,267
1331	154,985	153,312
1332	172,970	185,552
1333	182,296	175,924
1334	224,774	178,598
1335	264,976	193,776
1336	306,924	269,027
1337	294,044	243,885
1338	443,442	277,993
1339	341,420	337,331
1340	369,187	362,196
1341	297,187	392,698
1342	453,452	441,155
1343	470,616	441,825
1344	594,098	565,071
1345	614,665	630,768
1346	645,114	622,928
1347	583,329	584,085
1348	487,436	573,738
1349	349,189	471,011
1350	407,145	421,764
1351	513,874	416,574
1352	530,709	464,457
1353	582,382	487,130
1354	604,162	518,719
1355	667,644	574,065

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX C.

Statement of Revenue collected in the years A.H. 1354 and 1355.

No.	Headings	1354	1355
		$	$
1	Chandu	142,979	135,781
2	Courts	11,933	13,611
3	Customs	314,496	374,203
4	Excise	305	305
5	Forests	799	1,685
6	Harbours	2,934	3,179
7	Lands and Mines	75,634	75,862
8	Medical	1,479	1,524
9	Municipal	18,674	23,583
10	Police	8,034	9,492
11	Prisons	687	763
12	Sheriah Court	1,822	2,157
13	Treasury	22,650	24,318
14	Veterinary	1,736	1,181
	TOTAL ...	604,162	667,644

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX D.

Statement of Expenditure incurred in the years A.H. 1354 and 1355.

No.	Headings	1354	1355
		$	$
1	Ruling House Allowances ...	9,426	8,886
2	Pensions, Retired Allowances and Gratuities	19,565	24,009
3	His Highness the Raja ...	44,424	42,019
4	Office Raja and Adviser ...	16,116	17,883
5	Audit Office	5,114	5,608
6	Co-Operative Societies ...	8,376	7,796
7	Courts	17,535	22,092
8	Customs and Monopolies ...	43,344	44,769
9	Education	39,815	40,862
10	Lands and Mines	29,161	31,958
11	Medical and Health	25,218	31,126
12	Miscellaneous Services ...	31,312	42,705
13	Mosques	3,402	3,494
14	Municipal	13,639	14,694
15	Penghulus	7,011	6,236
16	Police	39,645	39,794
17	Prisons	9,800	10,236
18	Sheriah Court	8,235	8,523
19	Surveys	8,094	12,477
20	Treasury	5,855	5,778
21	Public Works Department ...	15,918	16,631
22	Public Works, Annually Recurrent	51,546	50,874
23	Public Works Special Services	33,384	81,840
24	Public Works Revotes ...	32,784	3,775
	TOTAL ...	518,719	574,065

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX E.

SPECIMEN OF OLD TITLE DEED ISSUED FOR LAND IN PERLIS.

Kaululhak.



Kata yang benar seperti yang tersebot tamat.

Mengiring mentri Duli Raja jadi saksi surat ini tamat.

Sanah 1290 tahon dal Awal pada 10 haribulan Sha'aban hari khamis pada Zaman Duli Maulana Syed Sheriff Hussain ibni Almarhom Maulana Syed Sheriff Haron Jemalulil Yang Maha Mulia memerintah Kerja'an Negri Perlis ini bahawa pada ketika itu mengadu Saman anak Nu pada kebawah Duli Raja Yang Maha Mulia kata ada tanah bendang pesaka to' nyang nya nama To' Bee turon pada to' nya nama To' Ashim turon pada bapak nya nama Nu tetapi daripada bapak nya lagi pun belom boleh herta to' nyang nya itu maka banyak tanah nya itu dua belas relong tiada berbahgi lagi maka sekarang tanah itu di-milek oleh Limah dan Ja'afar demikian lah aduan Saman maka titah suroh Duli Tuan Syed Ahmad panggil Limah dan Ja'afar itu periksa maka sudah Duli Tuan Syed Ahmad panggil Limah dan Ja'afar jawab kata ia apa kedua itu tiada pernah ketahwi kata tanah itu herta To' Bee ingat2 ia apa kedua tiga kali musoh sudah pun pesaka ia apa lah tanah itu maka Limah dan Ja'afar kata ada surat pasal tanah itu tetapi pada waktu itu tiada di-bawak kemudian ada selang lima hari Limah beri surat itu pada Mat Pa' Sarah dan Lebai Mohamed maka Mat Pa' Sarah itu ipar pada Limah dan Lebai Mohamed itu menantu Limah merika kedua itu lah di-wakil oleh Limah akan jawab aduan Saman itu maka surat putus pasal tanah itu pun di-keluar kan oleh Mat Pa' Sarah maka di-lihat di-dalam surat itu tarikh nya seribu seratus tujoh puloh tujoh tahon maka ada chap Dato' Bendahara serta terpalu mentri Duli Yang di-Pertuan Yang Maha Mulia di-kepala surat itu dan mentri Tengku Su mengiring bersama dan ada chap Megat Seri Maharaja menjadi saksi dan mensurat surat itu Dato' Seri Pekerma Indra ada chap nya maka tersebot di-dalam surat itu tanah To' Oran maka sudah berda'wa dua kali menang To' Oran juga kemudian Duli Tuan Syed Ahmad periksa Saman kata apa Saman handak kata pulak maka Saman jawab kata bukan nya tanah yang di-dalam surat itu tanah lain yang ia mengadu itu ada berchampor di-dalam tanah To' Oran itu juga dan lagi To' Oran itu pergi

Digitized by Google

berbini akan Mek Chabang maka Mek Chabang itu adek To' Ashim. To' Ashim itu lah to' ia yang demikian itu Duli Tuan Syed Ahmad bertanya hukom pada Tuan Kathi Tuan Haji Mohamed maka Tuan Kathi kata jikalau tanah di-dalam surat itu tanah herta To' Oran tentu nya sekadar To' Oran itu berbini akan To' Penakan Saman tetapi tiada tentu To' Oran itu beri akan bini nya dan lagi yang patut mengadu itu anak chuchu To' Oran dan Mek Chabang maka Saman itu chuchu penakan Mek Chabang sahaja boleh Saman jawab apa jalan nya maka Saman jawab kata tanah itu jadi berchampor pesaka To' Bee dengan To' Oran herta To' Bee itu lah yang ia mengadu maka jawab Mat dan Lebai Mohamed pulak kata sekali2 To' Oran tiada berbini akan Mek Chabang jikalau Saman boleh keluar saksi tanah itu berchampor serta saksi itu boleh tunjok beri tempat nya tanah To' Bee itu berani sumpah saksi itu puas lah hati ia apa kedua maka Tuan Kathi Haji Mohamed periksa Mat pulak kata Limah dan Ja'afar itu apa dengan To' Oran maka Mat dan Lebai Mohamed kata Limah dan Ja'afar itu chuchu pada To' Oran kemudian Tuan Kathi periksa Saman pulak kata kehandak Mat dan Lebai Mohamed akan saksi Saman yang boleh tunjok beri tanah To' Bee itu ada kah Saman boleh keluar orang yang ketahwi maka Saman jawab kata ada orang yang ketahwi maka Saman balik pergi chari saksi ada selang lima hari Saman balik mari pulak kata tiada siapa mahu jadi saksi ia yang demikian itu Tuan Kathi Haji Mohamed berdatang sembah ma'alom pada kebawah Duli Raja maka titah kata da'awa ini sangat zaman nya maka surat putus To' Oran itu di-tempat sukatan tanah tiada boleh handak di-bacha dengan sebab sangat burok nya di-dalam itu jikalau Limah dan Ja'afar berani bersumpah mengata-kan semata-mata herta To' Oran tiada berchampor dengan herta siapa2 maka Ja'afar pun bersumpah lah mengata-kan semata-mata tanah To' Oran tiada berchampor dengan tanah To' Bee jadi boleh-lah pada Limah dan Ja'afar tanah itu kemudian mengadu Sulaiman pulak kata ia itu saudara sepupu dengan Limah dan Ja'afar itu maka tatkala Limah dan Ja'afar berda'awa dengan Saman itu mem-belakang-kan ia sa-olah2 Limah dan Ja'afar tiada mahu beri habuan ia sama dan surat to' nenek sama2 itu pun Limah dan Ja'afar tiada pernah tunjok beri ia lihat maka titah Duli Raja pereksa Limah dan Ja'afar kata sung-goh-kah Sulaiman ini waris sama herta To' Oran itu maka Limah dan Ja'afar ma'alom kata sunggoh sekadar belom berbahagi sahaja dengan sebab Negri jadi haru-hara maka masing2 buat sa-orang sedikit tiada tentu banyak-nya habuan masing2 maka anak chuchu To' Oran itu sa-tengah ada sa-tengah tiada kemudian titah kata

Digitized by Google

sekarang ini apa kahendak angkau apa sekelian hendak berbahagi kah tanah itu pada masing2 waris-nya Limah dan Ja'afar dan Sulaiman ma'alom kata hendak pohon surohan Duli Raja pergi bahagi beri pada habuan masing2 antara ia-apa ka-semua adik beradik-nya maka tiṭah suroh Che Jusoh dan Karani Ahmad pergi bahagi di-kira2 jadi enam bahagian pada satu bahagian enam relong tengah dua penjuru maka yang lain itu tiada di-sebot di-dalam surat ini yang di-sebot di-dalam surat ini tanah habuan Limah chuchu To' Oran maka tanah itu di-dalam Mukim Sena banyak-nya enam relong tengah dua penjuru dua tempat yang satu tempat itu empat relong empat ratus tiga puloh enam jemba sa-tengah dengan sukatan jemba panjang delapan kaki di-kira2 jadi tengah enam hasta 'adat orang yang pertengahan lanjut sebelah utara sembilan puloh jemba berkembar dengan tanah Mat Saman dan lanjut sebelah selatan sembilan puloh satu jemba berkembar tanah Mek dan tanah Luang dan longkang sebelah matahari naik tiga puloh empat jemba sa-tengah tertumpu tanah Lebai Mohamad Hassan dan longkang sebelah matahari jatoh enam jemba tertumpu tanah Mat Saman dan sa-tempat lagi tengah dua relong enam jemba lanjut sebelah matahari naik tiga puloh empat jemba berkembar tanah Mat Saman lanjut sebelah matahari jatoh tiga puloh delapan jemba berkembar tanah Mek Puteh dan longkang sebelah selatan dua puloh jemba tertumpu tanah Luang dan longkang sebelah utara delapan belas jemba tertumpu kampong sendiri-nya maka akan sifat kedudok-kan tanah bendang yang tersebut ini menurut seperti dua peta yang tertulis di-belakang surat ini maka ini lah di-perbuat surat ketegohan beri taroh pada Limah tiada boleh deripada anak chuchu Saman dan anak chuchu Sulaiman dan anak chuchu Ja'afar tuntut lagi kerana sudah dengan halusi pereksa orang yang buat kerja serta terpalu mentri Duli Raja Yang Maha Mulia di-kepala surat ini menetap-kan tanah bendang yang tersebut ini pulang jadi milek Limah turun sampai pada anak chuchu-nya tatkala di-perbuat surat ini berhadapan Duli Tuan Syed Ahmad dan Tuan Kathi Haji Mohamad dan saksi2 nya Wan Mohamad Saman bin Dato' Peduka Seri Perdana Mentri dan Che Jusoh dan jema'ah yang banyak dan barang siapa2 yang menurun-kan hadz dan chap di-dalam surat ini itu-lah sahid-nya di-perbuat surat ini dengan tiga puloh sembilan satar maka bertambah tiga tempat sedikit2 pada satar dua puloh satu dan satar dua puloh empat dan dua puloh enam dan berkikis dua tempat pada akhir satar tiga puloh dua dan tiga puloh tiga itu-lah ada-nya wakapa bil-lah sahida alima wakatibuhu wasahiduhu Kerani Ahmad bin Asfia tamat.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX E.

TRANSLATION OF STATEMENT OF TRUTH.



What is stated is the truth.

Following the Seal of His Highness the Raja which bears witness to this document.

On Thursday the 10th of Shaaban, 1290 in the year of "Dal Awal" during the reign of His Highness Tuan Syed Sheriff Hussein son of Tuan Syed Sheriff Harun Jamalullail, ruler of the State of Perlis, there came to the presence of His Highness one Saman son of Nu, complaining that his great-grand-mother named To' Bee owned a piece of bendang land which was afterwards inherited by his grandfather named To' Ashim and subsequently by his father named Nu. But from the time of his father he had not been able to possess the land of his great-grand-mother. The area of the land was 12 relongs and had not yet been divided. The land was now possessed and cultivated by Limah and Jafar. Thus complained Saman. His Highnes gave orders for Tuan Syed Ahmad to summon and examine Limah and Jafar. When they appeared they said that they did not know that the land ever belonged to To' Bee. As far as they could remember the land had been their own as an inheritance through three invasions. They said that they held a document concerning the land but had not brought it on that day. Five days afterwards Limah gave the document to Mat Pa' Sarah and Lebai Mohamad the former a brother-in-law of Limah and the latter her son-in-law—whom she deputed to represent her in answering the claim of Saman. Mat Pa' Sarah produced the document of title which was seen to bear as date the year 1177 and was stamped with the "chap" (seal) of Dato' Bendahara and sealed on the top with the seal of His Highness the Yang di-pertuan together with the seal of Tengku Su. There was also the "chap" of Megat Seri Maharaja as witness. The document was written by Dato' Seri Pekerma Indra whose "chap" was also included. It was stated in the document that the land belonged to To' Oran who had twice been successful in legal proceedings

Digitized by Google

concerning it. Tuan Syed Ahmad then asked Saman what he wished to say. Saman replied that this was not so. The land mentioned in the document was another piece of land. The piece concerning which he complained was also included in To' Oran's land. Furthermore To' Oran had married Mek Chabang a younger sister of To' Ashim, his grand-father. Tuan Syed Ahmad then asked the Kathi, Tuan Haji Mohamad, for legal views in the matter. The Kathi said " Assuming that the land stated in the document belonged to To' Oran, though it is certain that he married Saman's grand-aunt it is not certain that To' Oran gave the land to his wife. Moreover those who might naturally have complained were the descendants of To' Oran and Mek Chabang. As for Saman he was only a grand-nephew of Mek Chabang. Saman should explain ". Saman said that the land was included in the property left by To' Bee and To' Oran and that it was the property of To' Bee that he was claiming. Mat and Lebai Mohamad interrupted saying that To' Oran never married Mek Chabang at all, but if Saman could produce witnesses who would swear on oath that the land was included in the property of To' Bee and To' Oran and could show the position of To' Bee's land they would be satisfied. Tuan Haji Mohamad the Kathi, then asked Mat as to the relationship between Limah and Jafar and To' Oran. Mat and Lebai Mohamad replied that Limah and Jafar were grand-children of To' Oran. The Kathi then enquired of Saman if he could produce the witnesses demanded of him. Saman said that he could. He then went to look for them.

After a lapse of five days Saman returned to say that no one was willing to bear witness for him. Thereupon Tuan Haji Mohamad, the Kathi, informed His Highness who said, " This case is an old one. The document of title of To' Oran at the point relating to measurements of the land is hardly legible because it is so old and ragged. But even so if Limah and Jafar are willing to take an oath that the land is the property of To' Oran alone and not shared by anyone else they can have it ". So Jafar took an oath that the land was the sole property of To' Oran and not shared by To' Bee. The land was then given to Limah and Jafar.

Afterwards came Suleiman who said that he was a cousin of Limah and Jafar and that during the proceedings against Saman he had been ignored and it appeared that Limah and Jafar did not wish to give him his share. He had never even been shown the document held by their grand-father. His Highness the Raja ordered that Limah and Jafar be questioned as to whether Suleiman was also an heir to the property of To'Oran. They replied that it was so, only

Digitized by Google

that they had not yet divided the land amongst them as the country then was not in a peaceful state, and each of them cultivated a small portion of the land without having determined the area of each share. Now some of the descendants of To' Oran were in the country while others were not. His Highness asked them if they would like the property to be divided amongst the heirs. Limah, Jafar and Suleiman begged His Highness to divide the property amongst them all so that each might be given his or her own share. His Highness then ordered Che' Jusoh and Krani Ahmad to go and divide the property, and after calculation it was divided into six shares each comprising six relongs and one and a half penjurus. The shares are not mentioned in this document except that of Limah granddaughter of To' Oran. This share comprises two pieces of land in two places situated in the Mukim of Sena. The area of one piece is four relongs and 436½ jembas—1 jemba being equal to 8 feet or about 5½ " hestas " of a medium sized man. The length on the north side is 90 jembas adjacent to Mat Saman's land, and on the south 91 jembas bounded by Mek's and State lands. The width on the east is 34½ jembas and the land is bounded by Lebai Mohamad Hassan's land, and on the west 6 jembas bounded by Mat Saman's land. The other piece is 1½ relongs and 6 jembas in area. The lengh on the east is 34 jembas bounded by Mat Saman's land and on the west 38 jembas bounded by Mek Puteh's lands. The width on the south side is 20 jembas bounded by State land and on the north 18 jembas bounded by her own land. The positions of these two pieces of bendang land are as indicated on the two plans drawn on the back of this document.

This document is therefore made to give security of tenure to be kept by Limah, so that neither the descendants of Saman nor those of Suleiman and Jafar shall have any claim to the said lands, a minute and complete enquiry having been made by the responsible officers. The seal of His Highness the Raja is affixed at the top of this document as a token of the validity of the title of the said Limah to the land to be held by her and to pass to her descendants. This document is written in the presence of Tuan Syed Ahmad, Tuan Kathi, Haji Mohamad, the witnesses Wan Mohamad Saman bin Dato' Peduka Seri Perdana Mentri, Che' Jusoh and an assembly of many people. Whoever signs and affixes his seal on this document is a witness. This document is written in 39 lines with a few additions in three places in lines 21, 24 and 26, and with marks of erasure in two places in lines 32 and 33. " It is sufficient that God is the witness and He is most knowing ".

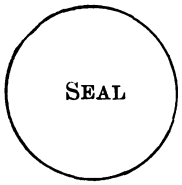
Written and witnessed by Krani Ahmad bin Asfia.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX F.

SPECIMEN OF OLD TITLE DEED ISSUED FOR LAND IN PERLIS.

Kaululhak.



Kata yang sebenar lah surat ini tamat.

Mengiring mentri Duli Raja Maha Mulia ada-nya tamat.

Alhamdulillah-rab-al-alamin wassalat-wassalam-alasy-ed-idina Mohamad Wa-ala-alihi-wasahbhi-apdzal-asalah-wazzakah yesteslim pada sanah tahon seribu tiga ratus lapan tahon Zai pada zaman Duli Maulana Tuan Syed Sheriff Ahmad ibni Merhom Duli Maulana Tuan Syed Sheriff Hussein ibni Merhom Duli Maulana Tuan Syed Sheriff Haron Jemalulil Yang Maha Mulia yang memerintah Negri Perlis ini bahawa pada ketika itu menyata-kan apakala hari Ahad dua likur haribulan Muharram sanah yang tersebut di-atas ini datang Haji Mohamad Guar Sanji dan Che' Jib adik dia-nya mengadap pada kebawah tapak cherpu Duli Tuan Syed Sheriff Ahmad Raja Perlis Yang Maha Mulia. Haji Mohamad dan Che' Jib sembah ma'alom kata ada-lah tanah bendang mak-nya To' Haji Mohamad dan Che' Jib di-dalam Mukim Kulang2 lebih kurang 3 relong dua penjuru turun kapada anak-nya Uwan Minah mak Haji Mohamad dan Che' Jib ini, sekarang Che' Jib adik dia-nya pohon pintak beli ambil dengan herga enam puloh rial demikian yang Haji Mohamad dan Che' Jib sembah ma'alom pada kebawah Duli Raja. Kemudian titah Duli Raja preksa Haji Mohamad dan Che' Jib kata tanah bendang Che' Jib pintak ambil ini jikalau tanah bendang pesaka Haji Mohamad bagimana jalan-nya yang boleh Che' Jib pintak beli ambil tanah bendang ini asal-nya mak-nya siapa tiada-kah anak chuchu-nya yang lain boleh mewaris-kan sama tanah bendang itu jikalau ada datang tuntut siapa2 hendak-kan atas tanah bendang itu juga jadi bergadohan pada hari yang kehadapan demikian lah titah Duli Raja. Kemudian Haji Mohamad dan Che' Jib sembah ma'alom kata ada-lah tanah bendang ini asal

Digitized by Google

tuan-nya mak-nya To' Uwan Ju to' Haji Mohamad dan Che' Jib turun kapada anak-nya To' Uwan Minah mak Haji Mohamad dan Che' Jib akan tetapi tatkala ada hayat Duli Merhom Tuan Syed Sheriff Hussein ayah Duli Raja dahulu To' Uwan Minah itu dudok di-Guar Sanji maka Duli Merhom pintak ambil tanah bendang itu pada To' Uwan Minah beri akan Ali titah orang Mukim Oran itu buat lapik makan lama sudah lebih kurang tiga puloh tahon ada nya yang Ali dudok milik tanah bendang ini sekarang ini Che' Jib adik dia-nya sudah balik dudok di-Kulang maka ini lah yang Che' Jib pohon pintak beli ambil balik tanah bendang ini demikian yang Haji Mohamad dan Che' Jib sembah ma'alom pada kebawah Duli Raja kemudian titah Duli Raja beri Panglima Daud Penghulu Mukim Kulang2 yang memerintah pekerjaan tanah bendang kampong laman di-dalam jajahan Negri Perlis ini suroh preksa tanya Ali bagi-bagi mana jalan-nya pasal tanah bendang Ali dudok buat itu ada kah surat muntri Duli Merhom beri akan Ali dudok pegang taroh itu dan atau Ali tebus tanah bendang itu dan suroh sukat lihat had hingga perenggan-nya, tumpu-nya, demikian lah titah Duli Raja. Apakala hari haribulan Muharram sanah tahon yang tersebut di-atas ini juga datang Panglima Daud mengadap pada kebawah tapak cherpu Duli Raja Yang Maha Mulia Panglima Daud sembah ma'alom kata pereksa tanya Ali pasal tanah bendang Che' Jib pohon pintak beli ini kata Duli Merhom yang ampun kurnia beri tanah bendang itu akan ia dan tiada surat muntri Duli Merhom Ali dudok pegang. Kemudian Duli Merhom pun sudah habis umor-nya maka Ali pun datang mengadap pada kebawah Duli Raja sendiri pintak tanah bendang itu juga dan Duli Raja pun benar lah beri tanah bendang itu akan Ali jadi Ali dudok milek berhubong mari sampai sekarang dan Ali tiada tebus pada siapa2 pun tanah bendang itu sekadar-nya Duli Merhom dengan Duli Raja kasihan belas beri buat lapik makan dahulu semantara datang kira bechara dan sukat lihat had hingga perenggan-nya peta sukatan-nya pun ada bawak dan patut sudah dengan herga enam puloh rial itu demikian Penghulu Daud sembah ma'alom pada kebawah Duli Raja tatkala demikian titah Duli Raja pun ampun kurnia benar lah beri tanah bendang itu maka akan Che' Jib pun beri Panglima Daud persembah enam puloh rial herga tanah bendang yang tersebut ini pada kebawah Duli maka Duli Raja pun beri terima ambil rial enam puloh rial itu pada Panglima Daud yang tersebut Duli Raja bertitah beri hukom perbuat surat putus beri akan Che' Jib pegang taroh jadi kakuatan hubong pergi pada hari yang kahadapan maka tanah bendang yang tersebut di-dalam surat ini di-dalam Mukim Kulang2 daerah Kampong Haji Yusuf kedudok-kan tanah bendang itu memujor mata-hari longkang sebelah mata-hari naik dua puloh lima jemba tertumpu kampong Che' Jib dudok

Digitized by Google

sendiri itu, longkang sebelah mata-hari jatoh dua puloh tujoh jemba tertumpu tanah bendang Haji Daud dudok dan tanah bendang Lebai Ahmad dudok buat lanjut di-sebelah utara enam puloh sembilan jemba berkembar dengan tanah bendang Daud dudok buat dan lanjut sebelah selatan tujoh puloh tujoh jemba berkembar dengan tanah bendang Abu Bakar dan tanah Wahab dudok buat di-sukat dengan jemba panjang tengah enam hasta orang yang pertengahan, jumlah relong-nya jadi empat relong serta ada peta tertulis di-belakang surat ini, maka tanah bendang yang tersebut di-dalam surat putus ini tetap-lah jadi milek Che' Jib kidz menjadi pesaka turun temurun sampai kapada anak chuchu-nya tiada lah boleh siapa2 hendak tuntut paut lagi atas tanah bendang ini kerana Duli Raja sudah jual dengan jualan yang putus seperti yang tersebut di-atas ini maka tatkala di-perbuat surat putus ini dengan titah Duli Raja serta terpalu muntri Duli Raja di-kepala sijil ini tanda sah seperti yang tersebut di-dalam surat ini dan ada muntri Duli Paduka Chuchunda Raja Muda mengiring muntri Duli Raja ini bersama akan saksi nya itu Panglima Daud Penghulu Mukim Kulang dan lagi di-tengah juma'ah yang banyak dan barang siapa yang menurun-kan had dan chap di-dalam surat itu lah sahid-nya wakapa-billah sahidal'alima wakatibuhu sanah Hakim Abdul Samat-mat junjong titah Duli Raja Yang Maha Mulia benar beri perbuat surat ini ada-nya tamat 1308.

Wassahidah sabenar Panglima Daud Mukim Kulang2 ada-nya tamat 1308.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX F.

TRANSLATION OF STATEMENT OF TRUTH.



Following the Seal of His Highness the Raja.

This document is a statement of truth.

Praises be to Allah, Lord of the Universe and His Blessings on the Prophet Muhammad. In the year 1308, the year of "Zai" in the reign of His Highness Tuan Syed Sheriff Ahmad, son of the late Tuan Syed Sheriff Hussein, son of the late Tuan Syed Sheriff Harun Jamalullail, ruler of the State of Perlis, it was recorded that on Sunday the 22nd of Muharram of the said year there came before the presence of His Highness Tuan Syed Sheriff Ahmad, Raja of Perlis, Haji Mohamad of Guar Sanji and Che' Jib his younger brother complaining that a piece of bendang land about 3 relongs and 2 penjurus situated in the Mukim of Kulang2 once belonged to their grand-mother; it then passed into the possession of her daughter Uwan Minah, their mother; and now Che' Jib, younger brother of Haji Mohamad begged permission of His Highness to buy land for $60. His Highness ordered that Haji Mohamad and Che' Jib be examined and questioned as to how it could be possible for Che' Jib to buy the bendang land when it was the inherited property of Haji Mohamad; who was its original owner; were there no other descendants who claimed the land and would there not be a quarrel in future if someone came to claim it? Haji Mohamad and Che' Jib then informed His Highness that the land originally belonged to To' Uwan Joo their grand-mother, that then it came down to her daughter To' Uwan Minah, their mother; but that when the late Tuan Syed Sheriff Hussein, father of His Highness the Raja, was still living, To' Uwan Minah lived at Guar Sanji; the late Raja asked for the land from To' Uwan Minah and handed it over to Ali for his own use, to keep him, so the people of Oran were informed. Thereafter Ali lived on the land for a very long time, more or less thirty years but that now that he, Che' Jib, had returned to live at Kulang2 he begged to be allowed to buy

Digitized by Google

the land. His Highness then gave orders to Panglima Daud, Penghulu of Mukim Kulang[2] and administrator of bendang lands and kampongs in the State of Perlis, to make enquiries from Ali concerning the land, how he came to occupy it, whether he had any title sealed with the seal of the late Raja permitting him to own the land or whether he had redeemed it from some one. Penghulu Daud was also ordered to measure the land.

On the day of Muharram of the aforesaid year Penghulu Daud came to the presence of His Highness and stated that he had asked Ali about the bendang land which Che' Jib wanted to buy and that Ali had said that the late Raja had given it as a gift to him without any title with the seal of the late Raja. When the late Raja died Ali sought audience of His Highness and beseeched that the land be left in his possession. His Highness granted the request and Ali had lived on the land until now. He did not redeem it from anybody. It was only out of pity that the late Raja and His Highness gave the land to him as a temporary means of livelihood, without prejudice to any other claim. The Penghulu also brought with him a plan of the land showing its boundaries and said that $60 was quite a reasonable price for it.

His Highness then approved the sale of the land and Che' Jib paid the $60 which Panglima Daud submitted to His Highness who then gave orders that a document of title be made out for Che' Jib to hold as a token of his right over the land for the future.

The bendang land stated in this document is situated in the Mukim of Kulang[2] in the vicinity of Kampong Haji Yusof. It lies lengthwise from east to west. It is 25 jembas broad on the east side bounded by the land on which Che' Jib himself lives, and 27 jembas on the west, bounded by the bendang lands of Haji Daud and Lebai Ahmad. The length on the north side is 69 jembas bounded by Daud's land and on the south 77 jembas, bounded by bendang lands of Abu Bakar and Wahab. The measurement is calculated in jembas each of which equals 5½ hestas of a medium sized man. The total area of the land is 4 relongs and a plan of it is drawn at the back of this document.

The bendang land stated in this document shall therefore be the property of Che' Jib to hold for ever with a right of succession to his descendants. No one shall have any claim to it because it has been duly sold by His Highness as aforesaid.

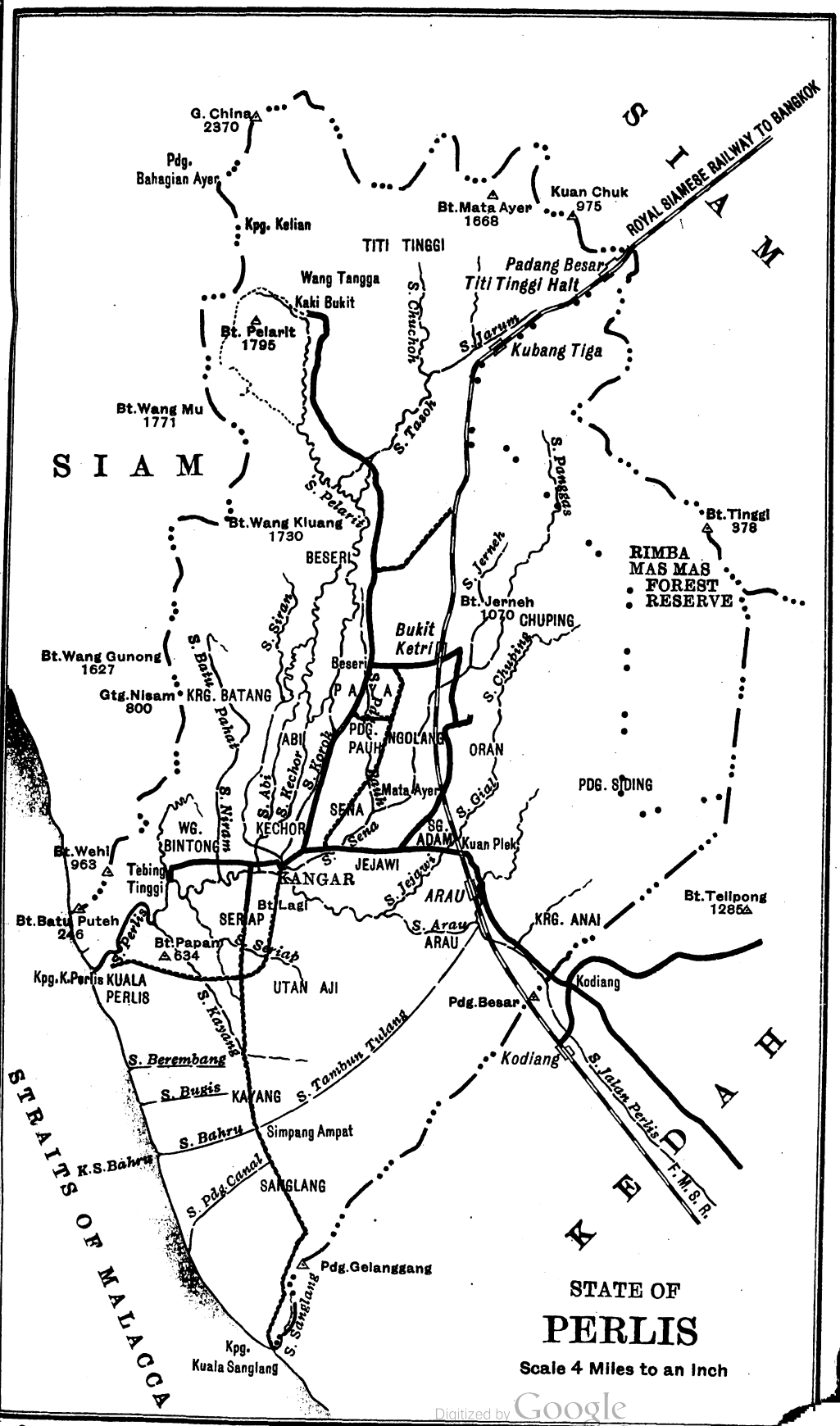
Digitized by Google

This document is made by the order of His Highness and, in token of the validity of its contents, is sealed on the top with the seal of His Highness together with that of his grandson the Raja Muda, and witnessed by Panglima Daud Penghulu of Mukim Kulang2 in the midst of a large assembly of people. Whoever signs and affixes his seal on this document is a witness. "It is sufficient that God is the witness and He is most knowing".

Written by Senda Hakim Abdul Samad in obedience of the order of His Highness who permitted this document to be written. 1308.

Witness Senda Panglima Daud Mukim Kulang2 1308.

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

Goverment Copyright is Reserved

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. 111] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

(46839—48) Wt. 3116—3955 499 1/38 P. St. G. 377

S.O. Code No. 58-1832

Digitized by Google

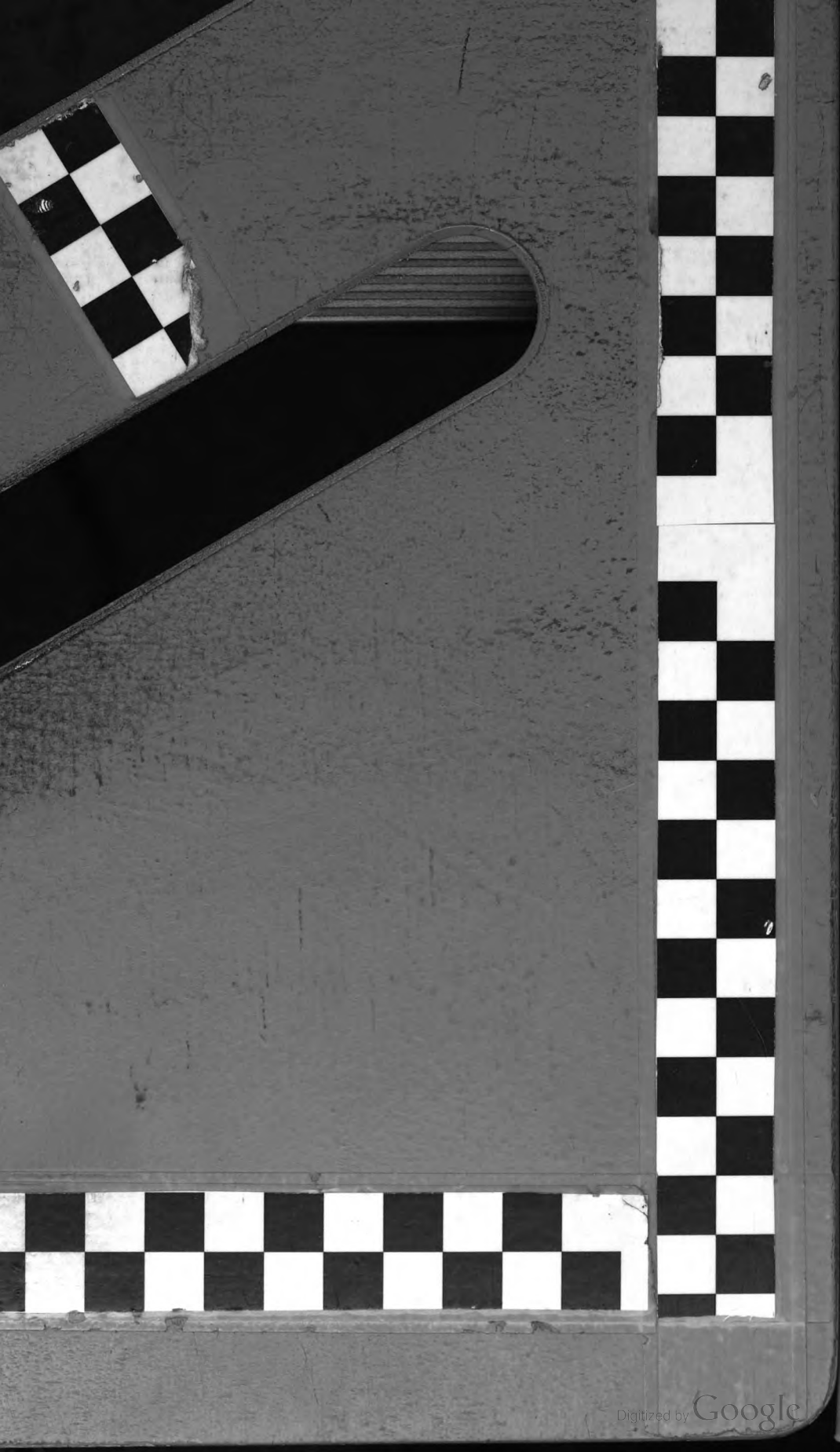
Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google


Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1831

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

SWAZILAND, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1740 and 1793 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937
Price 1s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937. [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
[illegible]: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1831

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

SWAZILAND, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1740 and 1793 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 1s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SWAZILAND, 1936

CONTENTS.

Chapter.		*Page.*
I.	GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY	2
II.	GOVERNMENT	4
III.	POPULATION	5
IV.	HEALTH	6
V.	HOUSING	8
VI.	PRODUCTION...	9
VII.	COMMERCE	10
VIII.	WAGES AND COST OF LIVING	12
IX.	LABOUR	13
X.	EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS	14
XI.	COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT	17
XII.	BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES... ...	19
XIII.	PUBLIC WORKS	21
XIV.	JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS	21
XV.	LEGISLATION	26
XVI.	PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION	26
XVII.	MISCELLANEOUS	31
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	31

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Swaziland lies between the eastern slopes of the Drakensberg mountains, which form the eastern border of the Transvaal, and the low-lying lands of Northern Zululand and Portuguese East Africa.

It is bounded on the north, west and south by the Transvaal and on the east by Portuguese territory and Tongaland, now part of the Natal Province, and is about the size of Wales, its area being 6,704 square miles. A little more than one-third of the territory is native area and the remainder is owned by Europeans.

The territory is divided geographically into three longitudinal regions, roughly of equal breadth, running from north to south and known locally as the high, middle and low or bush veld. The high veld portion adjoining the eastern Transvaal consists of mountains, part of the Drakensberg range. These mountains rise in parts to an altitude of over 5,000 feet. The middle veld is about 2,000 feet lower, while the bush veld, bounded on the east by the Ubombo mountains, has a height of from 300 to 1,000 feet.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Southern
1-20-38
15205

Climate.

Both the rainfall and the temperature vary considerably with the altitude of the meteorological stations, which are under the control of the Chief Meteorologist of the Union Government. The average rainfall at two stations was:—

Mbabane (3,800 feet) 54·35 inches over 34 years.
Bremersdorp (2,175 feet) 35·27 inches over 33 years.

The mean maximum and minimum temperatures were 71·5 and 51·4 respectively at Mbabane and 77·1 and 55·9 respectively at Bremersdorp. Figures of temperature are given in degrees Fahrenheit.

History.

The Swazis are akin to the Zulu and other tribes of the south-eastern littoral. Up to about 100 years ago they occupied the country just north of the Pongola river, but a hostile Chief in their vicinity forced them further north, and under Chief Sobhuza they then occupied the territory now known as Swaziland. This Chief who died in 1839, was succeeded by Mswazi II. The further order of succession has been Ludonga, Mbandeni and Bhunu, whose son Sobhuza II, was installed as Paramount Chief in 1921 after a long minority, during which his grandmother Labotsibeni, acted as Regent.

The many concessions granted by Mbandeni necessitated some form of European control, notwithstanding that the independence of the Swazis had been guaranteed in the Conventions of 1881 and 1884 entered into between the Government of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria and the Government of the South African Republic. In 1890, soon after the death of Mbandeni, a Provisional Government was established representative of the Swazis, and of the British and South African Republic Governments. In 1894 under a Convention between the British and the South African Republic Governments, the latter was given powers of protection and administration, without incorporation, and Swaziland continued to be governed under this form of control until the outbreak of the Boer War in 1899.

In 1902, after the conclusion of hostilities in the Transvaal, a Special Commissioner took charge, and, under an Order in Council (1903), the Governor of the Transvaal administered the territory through a local officer until the year 1907, when, under an Order in Council (1906), the High Commissioner assumed control and established the present form of administration. Prior to this, steps had been taken for the settlement of the concessions and their partition between the concessionaires and the natives. The boundaries of the mineral concessions were also defined and all monopoly concessions were expropriated. Title to property is therefore now clear. In this connexion a case brought by the Paramount Chief was dismissed, on appeal, by the Privy Council (1926).

Digitized by Google

II.—GOVERNMENT.

By an Order in Council dated 1st December, 1906, Swaziland was placed directly under the control of the High Commissioner for South Africa (now styled the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate, and Swaziland), and a Proclamation was issued in March, 1907 (the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907), providing for the appointment of a Resident Commissioner, a Government Secretary, and Assistant (now District) Commissioners, and the establishment of a Police Force.

The Resident Commissioner exercises such administration and control, and is invested with all such powers, authorities, and jurisdiction as are conferred upon him by the said Proclamation, or any other law, or by the terms of his commission, subject always to the directions and instructions of the High Commissioner.

Advisory Council.

An elected Advisory Council, representative of the Europeans, was established in 1921, to advise the Administration on European affairs. The Territory is divided into two electoral divisions, one north and the other south of the Great Usutu River.

The sixth Council was elected in 1935, and consists of five members for South Swaziland, and four members for North Swaziland. Meetings of this Council are held at least twice a year.

A committee of the Council, consisting of four members, two from each electoral division, meets whenever convened by the Resident Commissioner himself or by him at the request of any two members. This Committee advises on any important matters which may arise from time to time between the usual meetings of the Council.

Native Council.

The Council is composed of the Indunas of the nation under the presidency of the Induna of the Paramount Chief's kraal. They advise the Paramount Chief on administrative and judicial affairs of State. Meetings of the Council with the Resident Commissioner are held from time to time.

Meetings of District Officials with Native Chiefs.

The regular monthly meetings between District Officers and Native Chiefs and their followers give an opportunity for discussing difficulties and have established a good understanding between the Administration and the natives.

Digitized by Google

Advisory Committees on Townships.

Meetings of these bodies are held monthly. The Committees are elected by the owners of stands in the various townships. The District Commissioner or Assistant District Commissioner presides.

School Advisory Committees.

Members are elected for any public school by parents residing in Swaziland who, at the time of election, have one or more children on the roll of such school. When convenient one committee may be elected to represent two or more schools situated in the same district. The committees have certain powers and duties in connexion with compulsory education under Proclamation No. 7 of 1920.

School Boards.

The members of these Boards consist of members of school committees in the district, each school committee having the right to elect one of its members to be on such a Board. The District Commissioner or Assistant District Commissioner of the district is the chairman. The duties of Boards are laid down in the Compulsory Education Proclamation (No. 7 of 1920). They advise the Administration in all matters connected with the provisions of schools and school accommodation in each district and on other educational matters affecting Europeans.

III.—POPULATION.

A census of the population was held in May, 1936. The figures were:—

	Numbers.	*Percentage increase on 1921 Census.*
Europeans	2,740	24·26
Natives (Bantu)	153,270	38·96
Coloured (other than Bantu)	705	56·31

About 83 per cent. of the Bantu population reside in native areas and about 17 per cent. on European-owned land.

No statistics are available with regard to the nationality of the European races.

There is no registration of births or deaths of the Bantu population. Registration of native marriages was introduced in October, 1934.

Digitized by Google

The following table shows the population of Swaziland classified on the basis of employment. The figures are approximate and are compared with the previous year:—

CLASSIFICATION OF POPULATION ON BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT.

	Europeans.		*Others.*	
	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
Government Employment	140	145	812	560
Agriculture	654	570	2,730	1,942
Trade and Industry	25	84	665	660
Domestic Service	—	—	500	568
Employment in Union of South Africa (including recruits for mines)	—	—	17,824	9,561

Amongst the European population there were:—

	Per 1,000.
(*a*) Births	55 or 20·07
(*b*) Marriages	21 or 7·66
(*c*) Deaths	26 or 9·49
(*d*) Infantile Mortality (Death-rate under one year)	7 or 2·55
(*e*) European Emigrants	86 or 31·39
(*f*) European Immigrants	105 or 38·32

IV.—HEALTH.

The European Medical Staff of the Administration consists of the Principal Medical Officer, two Medical Officers, three Hospital Assistants and Dispensers, six Nurses and one Cook-housekeeper. There is one subsidized Mission Doctor and two subsidized Mission Nurses.

Hospitals.

There are two Government hospitals—one at Mbabane in the Northern District and one at Hlatikulu in the Southern District. At the former there is accommodation for five European and twenty Native in-patients. The reconstructed Hlatikulu hospital, which was opened in November, has accommodation for twelve European, four coloured and thirty-two Native patients. Excellent work continues to be done at the Mission Hospital at Bremersdorp, the Government Dispensaries at Mankaiana and Goedgegun and the Mission Dispensaries at Stegi, Pigg's Peak and Ndingeni.

One medical outpost was opened during the year thus raising the number to five. The work at all of these increased considerably especially towards the end of the year, but there is still too great a tendency on the part of the natives to regard the outposts as convenient places for consulting the medical officer on his fortnightly visit rather than as places to which at any time they can go to a native nurse for advice and treatment.

Digitized by Google

The following table gives figures of in-patients and out-patients treated at hospitals and dispensaries during 1935 and 1936:—

	In-Patients.		*Out-Patients.*	
Government Institutions:—	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
Mbabane Hospital	646	951	8,030	9,553
Hlatikulu Hospital	604	684	8,798	8,839
Mankaiana Dispensary	—	49	3,866	4,685
Goedgegun Dispensary	—	—	2,675	2,092
Mission Institutions:—				
Bremersdorp Hospital	947	929	10,752	11,799
Ndingeni Dispensary	—	151	4,592	5,067
Pigg's Peak Dispensary	—	55	3,006	3,587
Stegi Dispensary	—	82	1,190	3,453

Public Health.

The year 1936 was a fairly healthy one. There was no serious outbreak of infectious disease. The large increase in the amount of hospital work was an indication not of an increase in the amount of sickness but of another great advance in the yearly increasing confidence which the natives are showing in these institutions.

The amount and distribution of general diseases varies little from year to year. One of the few exceptions to this is scurvy of which there was less than usual. This was due to fairly good rains and a consequent increase in the amount and variety of the native crops.

Malaria was fairly widespread and the epidemic lasted much longer into the winter than is usual, owing to delay in arrival of really cold weather. The epidemic was mild and few deaths occurred.

In the early part of the year it was reported that smallpox had broken out in the Southern District. It was a false alarm but as no vaccination had been done for about ten years it was decided to get on with this during the winter and over 47,000 people were vaccinated.

The number of lepers remains about the same. The small leper settlement in the Mankaiana District has become overcrowded. It was meant for the five Swazi lepers who were repatriated from Pretoria in 1935, but since then 15 more have come in voluntarily. The response to treatment in most cases has been amazingly good and several of the inmates will soon be in such a condition that it should be safe to discharge them.

Tuberculosis is believed by the Medical Officers to be on the increase but with the means at the disposal of the Medical Service at present it is difficult to deal with the problem.

Digitized by Google

The amount of syphilis seems to increase slowly in spite of the fact that there are eight treatment centres. Formerly this was largely an urban disease but during the last few years it has spread more and more to the rural population. This makes it more difficult to deal with. The spread is probably due to the rapid opening up of means of communication all over the Territory.

No fewer than 18 cases of anthrax were treated in hospitals during the year. One case died. In every instance the disease was contracted in the process of skinning and cutting up carcases of animals which had died from this disease.

Schistosomiasis is prevalent over about two-thirds of the Territory. It has, however, been banished from Bremersdorp by the provision of a pure water supply for domestic use and for a large public swimming bath.

Prisons and Asylums.

Mental cases requiring institutional treatment are sent to the Union of South Africa. At the end of the year there were three Europeans and 25 natives there.

The health of the prisoners in the Swaziland gaols was good. Some of the smaller gaols are overcrowded during the greater part of the year.

V.—HOUSING.

The wage-earning population of Swaziland consists of:—

(*a*) Inhabitants of Urban Areas.

The European wage-earners are mainly civil servants and traders, and are for the most part well housed in brick buildings. A certain number of wood and iron buildings of a poor type remain in some of the townships, notably Mbabane and Hlatikulu. These buildings are mainly occupied by Government officials and police.

Eurafricans and educated natives living in urban areas generally occupy houses of the same type as the poorer Europeans.

The native hut is gradually disappearing from the urban areas—the quarters of native servants are usually provided by their European masters.

Sanitary arrangements in the urban areas are good and well controlled. Regular inspections are carried out by the Town Inspectors. Generally there are no bathrooms for native domestic servants.

(*b*) Inhabitants of Rural Areas.

European wage-earners are mainly farmers who occupy houses of the same type as those in urban areas.

Digitized by Google

Native wage-earners live in huts of a beehive type, consisting of a wattle framework covered with thatch. The floors are earthen, polished and impervious to damp. There are no windows, but as they are only used for sleeping and as shelters from the rain, this is not a great drawback. There is a certain amount of ventilation through the thatch.

The huts are grouped in kraals where there are huts allotted to youths and unmarried males, unmarried females above the age of puberty, married women, visitors, etc. There are no sanitary conveniences. In the case of any unusual amount of sickness the kraal is moved to a new site where new huts are constructed. Overcrowding under these conditions is unknown.

Action towards Amelioration.

In all urban areas sanitary regulations are enforced. In the rural areas the spread of knowledge of hygiene in schools, and the example set by Europeans are the only factors existing to improve conditions.

There are no Building Societies in the Territory.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The only minerals at present produced are tin and gold. During 1936, 182·7 long tons of tin valued at £39,351 were produced and 275·63 ozs. of gold valued at £1,938 as compared with 181·68 long tons of tin valued at £39,628 and 314·36 ozs. of gold valued at £2,130 in 1935.

Cattle.

The primary interest of the Swazi people is the possession of cattle, which is the index of wealth. Cattle of a minimum weight of 800 lb. may be exported to the Johannesburg and Durban markets. At the beginning of 1936 two large areas were seriously infected with East Coast fever, one with its centre in the mountains north-east of Mbabane and the other on each side of the upper Mkondo River. There were 21 infected dipping areas. The number of deaths from the disease was 383 compared with 489 in 1935. The erection of 50 new dipping tanks authorized with assistance from the Colonial Development Fund is proceeding throughout the country.

A general inoculation campaign against Anthrax was carried out during the first part of the year, all cattle in the Territory being inoculated. A re-inoculation of all cattle was commenced nine months afterwards and deaths from the disease are diminishing.

Redwater and gallsickness took serious toll amongst valuable stock imported from the highveld.

Digitized by Google

The following cattle were exported for slaughter purposes during the last three years:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.
Johannesburg Market	3,218	2,271	3,582
Durban Market	3,538	4,115	5,996
	6,756	6,386	9,578

The number of cattle in the Territory at the end of 1936 was 399,384 of which 55,363 were owned by Europeans, compared with 406,227, including 54,861 European-owned, in 1935.

Agriculture.

Farming is carried on by a number of Europeans and almost all natives in rural areas are peasant farmers. A variety of crops is produced, the most important being maize, kaffir corn, cotton and tobacco.

A drought at the end of 1935 was followed by plentiful rains and good crops.

The natives are cultivating larger areas every year and will soon be able to produce all their requirements. Their methods of agriculture are being improved with the aid of native demonstrators trained in more progressive areas in the Union. Swazis are now training in this work at the Swazi National School under local conditions.

Native dairies continue to increase and a larger number of milk-collecting stations will be established when the butter factory at Bremersdorp commences operations.

The cotton (seed) produced—124,750 lb.—was the lowest on record, due to the late rains in the 1935-6 summer. Similarly the tobacco crop was affected, 282,735 lb. being produced.

Swaziland participated in the Empire Exhibition in Johannesburg. A donation of £600 from the Government and public subscriptions amounting to £425 enabled the opening of a stall where products of the country were displayed. Much interest was taken, amongst other products, in the exhibits of soya beans, tung nuts and oil.

Labour.

Labour was plentiful for all purposes throughout the year. The tin mines around Mbabane employed 704 natives. The gold mines on the Witwatersrand offer the largest field for Swazi labour. Fuller particulars regarding this subject will be found in Chapter IX of this report.

VII.—COMMERCE.

By an Agreement with the Union of South Africa dated the 29th June, 1910, Swaziland is dealt with for Customs purposes as part of the Union, and a fixed percentage of the total collections in the Union is paid to Swaziland annually.

Digitized by Google

Payments are assessed on the proportion which the average amount of the collections of the Territory for the three years ended 31st March, 1911, bore to the average amount of the Customs revenue of the Union during the same period. No statistics of imports are kept.

The imports consist principally of maize, flour, groceries, wearing apparel, kaffir truck, hardware, machinery, building materials, etc., most of which are imported from the Union of South Africa, through wholesale firms established there. Prices of foodstuffs were not excessive during the year.

The following tables give the amounts received by Swaziland under the Customs Agreement, the amounts collected locally in respect of duty on spirits and beer, and the principal exports with their values.

Of the exports, all the products with the exception of cotton and tin were exported to the Union of South Africa. Cotton was exported to England and tin to the Straits Settlements.

Amounts received by Swaziland under the Customs Agreement and collected locally in respect of duty on beer and spirits.

	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
	£	£	£
Received from Union	17,273	18,490	20,167
Collected locally	1,383	1,332	1,363
	£18,656	£19,822	£21,530

The following is a summary of the products, quantities in pounds and values, exported during the five years ended 31st December, 1936:—

Slaughter Stock.

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
lb.	5,338,800	9,600,000	6,079,400	5,747,400	8,620,000
£	23,728	62,400	40,536	38,316	57,468

Tobacco.

lb.	341,055	377,906	374,952	261,794	282,735
£	10,850	10,010	10,433	6,542	9,441

Cotton (Seed).

lb.	750,000	207,000	295,800	200,068	124,750
£	3,125	1,400	2,048	1,459	950

Hides and Skins.

lb.	60,750	439,820	451,850	496,471	600,000
£	633	5,910	6,200	8,449	15,000

Wattle Bark.

lb.	56,000	1,322,000	300,000	939,200	598,080
£	28	2,653	536	1,825	1,335

Digitized by Google

			Wool.		
lb.	30,000	17,138	18,638	20,000	22,000
£	490	533	536	750	825
			Butter.		
lb.	1,705	1,210	1,500	3,202	—
£	85	61	68	199	—
			Butter-Fat.		
lb.	22,197	86,690	27,348	21,139	68,000
£	740	3,973	1,004	856	3,825
			Bullion.		
£	1,542	3,914	2,608	2,130	3,866
			Metallic Tin.		
lb.	187,980	226,912	362,380	406,963	409,248
£	11,497	19,665	37,356	39,628	39,351

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

With the exception of civil servants and police, the wages and hours of work of Europeans employed by the Government on agricultural and veterinary services, public works, and by the South African Railways Administration on the road motor services, were as follows:—

Type of Employment.	*Salary.*	*Hours worked per week.*
Drivers on road motor services.	£9 to £25 per month with quarters in some cases	60
Road overseers	£16 to £21 per month with free quarters	54
Stock inspectors	£240-15-360 p.a.	54

Europeans were engaged in civil employment as farm managers and labourers, builders, mine managers and miners. Their wages and hours of work were as follows:—

Type of Employment.	*Salary.*	*Hours worked per week.*
Farm managers and labourers	£5 to £25 per month with free quarters and share of crops valued at £40-£80 p.a.	60
Builders	15s. to 20s. per day	48
Mine managers	£35 per month	50
Mine overseers	£30 per month	50
Prospectors and miners ...	£20-£25 per month	50

The cost of living for Europeans varied from £10 to £15 per month in the case of unmarried men, to £30 to £40 per month in the case of married men, according to the size and age of their families.

Digitized by Google

Natives were employed by the Government on public works, and in the Police, and Veterinary and Agricultural Departments. Native police are provided with free quarters, while cattle guards in the Veterinary Department, and agricultural demonstrators, are given neither quarters nor food.

The rates of pay and hours worked per week are as follows:—

Type of Employment.	*Salary.*	*Hours worked per week.*
Public works labourers ...	30s. per month with quarters and food	54
Police	From £36 to £84 p.a.	60
Cattle guards and agricultural demonstrators.	From £30 to £114 p.a.	60

Natives in civil employment were engaged in agriculture, mining and domestic service. In all cases free quarters and food were provided. The rates of pay and hours of work were as follows:—

Type of Employment.	*Salary.*	*Hours worked per week.*
Agricultural labourers ...	15s. to 40s. per month	60
Mine labourers	8d. to 2s. per day	50
Domestic servants	10s. to 70s. per month	50

IX.—LABOUR.

The gold mines in the Union of South Africa play an increasingly large part in the economic life of Swaziland. The following tables show the number of recruits sent to the mines by the Native Recruiting Corporation, Ltd., the amount of money circulated in the country through this concern, the number of travelling passes issued to natives to visit the Union for various purposes, and the approximate figures relating to local employment.

It has not been possible to divide the numbers of recruited and non-recruited labourers into their different categories of mining occupations, but it is safe to say that all recruited natives and those on the Assisted Voluntary System go to the Witwatersrand, while a large number of natives who leave Swaziland seeking work find employment in the gold and asbestos mines around Barberton, and in the coal mines of the Eastern Transvaal and Natal.

Labourers on the local tin mines are not required to do any underground work, and labourers in Government employ are mainly road labourers, cattle guards and police.

Digitized by Google

Native Recruiting Corporation, Limited.

Particulars relating to natives from Swaziland employed on the Witwatersrand Gold Mines for the year 1936.

Number of contracted recruits	6,438
Number of recruits on the Assisted Voluntary System	1,414
	7,852

Monetary transactions undertaken by the Native Recruiting Corporation on behalf of recruited natives and those on the Assisted Voluntary System. Also capitation fees paid.

	£
Deferred pay payments	44,362
Capitation fees	8,500
Advances to recruits	20,000
Native remittances to Swaziland	14,000
	£86,862

Particulars of Travelling Passes issued to Swazis to enter the Union of South Africa.

Recruited by Native Recruiting Corporation	7,852
Seeking work on own accord	4,824
Visiting and on private business	3,711
	16,387

Particulars relating to Swazi natives in local employ.

Employed by the Administration on various works	560
Employed on local tin mines, etc.	703
Employed by Europeans and Eurafricans in agriculture ...	1,942
Employed in domestic service	568
(Estimated) ...	3,773

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

During the year the Education Department was placed under the control of a full-time Superintendent of Education whose duties comprise the ordinary administrative work of the Department as well as the inspection of all controlled schools in the Territory.

Digitized by Google

The expenditure on education during the past five financial years was as follows:—

Financial Year.	*Amount spent from General Revenue on native mission schools.*	*Amount spent from Swazi National Fund on native mission schools.*	*Total spent on education generally.*		
			From General Revenue.	*From Swazi National Fund.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£	£
1932–33	2,693	267	10,280	1,830	12,110
1933–34	2,712	—	10,271	1,637	11,908
1934–35	2,881	—	10,647	2,288	12,935
1935–36	3,018	—	9,572	2,714	12,286
1936–37	3,364	—	10,506	2,993	13,499

European Education.

During the year under review one small school in Southern Swaziland was closed down and the pupils are now attending other schools. There are now only seven Government schools for European children where primary education is given, one of which, the Goedgegun School in South Swaziland, does in addition work of a secondary type.

Secondary education is also given at St. Mark's School, Mbabane, which is aided by an annual grant from the Government, on a *per capita* basis. The school is controlled by a Council and is inspected by the Superintendent of Education.

Certain commercial subjects are taught in addition to those subjects which are usually included in the secondary school course leading up to the Matriculation examination of the University of South Africa.

At Bremersdorp the Dominican Order has established a well-equipped and well-staffed school with both primary and secondary departments, but it receives no financial aid. The work done at this school is mostly of a primary nature but a few pupils are also prepared for secondary examinations of the University of South Africa and the examinations conducted by the College of Preceptors in England. Candidates are also prepared for the Commercial Certificate Examinations of the Union Education Department.

During the year the hostel at the Driefontein School in the Mankaiana District was restarted, but it was finally decided not to proceed with the erection of a Government hostel building at that centre. It has appeared on closer investigation that centralization at one centre instead of partial centralization at various centres will be both more economical and educationally more effective.

The average attendance at the eight Government schools for European children during the last three years was:—364 in 1934, 321 in 1935, and 273 in 1936.

Digitized by Google

The final enrolment of St. Mark's School for 1936 was 96 and the final enrolment at the Dominican Convent, Bremersdorp, was 27.

Standard VI (School Leaving Certificate) examinations are held annually. Sixteen candidates passed out of a total of 18 entrants.

The Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements are being fostered throughout the Territory and at several schools there are troops of both kinds.

Eurafrican Education.

There is in existence in the Southern district an institution called the " Florence Coloured School " which provides primary education for Eurafrican children. The school receives a grant-in-aid from the Administration. Very excellent boarding facilities exist for both girls and boys. The average attendance in 1936 was 30.

The Roman Catholic Mission have also established a coloured school in the Southern district which, however, does not receive Government assistance.

Coloured children in other parts of the Territory attend native schools.

Native Education.

There are in all, 290 native schools in the Territory for natives, which fall into the following divisions:—

Three Government native schools under the supervision of a European Principal; 104 controlled native mission schools which are in receipt of Government aid and under Government supervision; 183 non-controlled native mission schools under the direct supervision of various mission societies of which there are 21 operating in the Territory.

There are two Supervisors of native schools who visit the controlled native schools for the purpose of instructing the teachers in improved methods of teaching.

The Board of Advice on Native Education which is composed of Government officials, representatives of the European Advisory Council, missionaries and native members, met once during the year.

It is stated that the help which mission societies have been receiving from overseas is gradually being curtailed.

The subsidized native schools are divided into three classes:—

Class I (Bush schools) which provide teaching up to and inclusive of Standard II. Class II schools where the work taught is up to and inclusive of Standard IV. Class III schools where the teaching is confined solely to Standards V and VI. At the end of each year examinations are held by the Education Department for the IV, V and VI Standards, and students who have obtained the Sixth Standard or School Leaving Certificate are

Digitized by Google

able to secure admission to colleges and institutions in South Africa which provide courses for the training of teachers.

The satisfactory staffing of native schools is still a difficult matter. Owing to the low rate of pay posts in Class I schools are for the most part held by teachers who are professionally unqualified. In the case of Class II and III schools only teachers who have undergone a course of training at a recognized institution are appointed.

In the case of the 183 other schools not in receipt of grants, the Department supplies these schools with calendars and attendance registers and extends to them its services in so far as present circumstances allow. Evening classes are held at some of the mission institutions.

The three Government schools are at Matapa, Zombode and Lobamba. The Swazi National School, Matapa, is the only native school in the Territory at which secondary work is being undertaken. Courses of instruction at the Swazi National School include ordinary school work from Standard IV to the Junior Certificate of the University of South Africa, a one year teacher training course, a certain amount of training in Woodwork, Agriculture and Domestic Science as well as special courses in Agriculture and general farm work.

The following table gives the total number of Africans undergoing education in Swaziland during the year:—

Number of children in controlled schools	4,676
Number of children in non-controlled schools	4,626
Number of children in Government schools	323

The examinations held in connexion with the native schools cover amongst other subjects, craft work, needlework, agricultural work, the vernacular and oral English.

The following table sets out the number of entrants for each of the examinations, which were held in December, 1936, and the number of passes obtained:—

	Entries.	*Passes.*
Standard IV Examination	248	204
Standard V Examination	139	105
Standard VI (School Leaving Certificate) Examination	83	44
Junior Certificate Examination	3	1

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

All transport, both into and out of the territory, is by road, and connects on the south, south-east, west, north, and north-east with railheads in the Union of South Africa at Gollel, Piet Retief, Breyten, Hectorspruit and Komatipoort, respectively. The main road from Johannesburg to Lourenco Marques runs through Swaziland from west to east.

Digitized by Google

There are approximately 400 miles of main roads and the same mileage of secondary roads in the Territory.

Railways.

There are no railways or tramways in Swaziland.

Motor Transport.

The motor transport services of the South African Railways Administration and the Portuguese East African Administrations, carrying both goods and passengers, continue to operate over the same routes as formerly between Swaziland and the railheads in the neighbouring territories.

The cost of maintaining these services is borne entirely by the Administrations operating them, and the revenues derived therefrom are retained by the respective Administrations.

The following tables show the traffic handled since the commencement of the services:—

SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS MOTOR TRANSPORT.

Year	Passengers carried. European.	Natives.	Goods handled. Tons.	Cream conveyed. Gallons.
1928 ...	5,657	16,717	6,339	—
1929 ...	5,860	27,400	7,930	—
1930 ...	5,509	35,346	10,078	—
1931 ...	5,009	43,334	8,559	—
1932 ...	4,319	35,414	6,413	14,694
1933 ...	4,386	39,022	7,156	17,338
1934 ...	5,164	44,740	9,297	19,728
1935 ...	5,418	45,969	11,589	18,887
1936 ...	6,338	50,735	11,831	18,870

PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT MOTOR TRANSPORT (depot at Goba).

Year.	Passengers carried. Europeans.	Natives.	Goods handled. Tons.
1931	214	1,556	1,769
1932	173	4,268	1,045
1933	211	3,104	1,138
1934	300	3,736	2,254
1935	237	3,574	2,230
1936	161	4,333	2,218

The charges by both motor transport services are the same, namely, passenger fares at 2d. per mile for Europeans, and 1½d. per mile for natives; charges for goods carried are on a sliding scale and according to classification, namely, at from 3d. for 5 miles to 2s. 6d. for 100 miles per 100 lb.

Digitized by Google

Motor Vehicles.

The following motor vehicles were registered in the Territory as at 31st December, 1936:—

	British (including Canadian) makes.	*Other makes.*	*Total.*
Private cars	... 60	252	312
Commercial vehicles ...	... 29	40	69
Motor cycles	... 58	9	67
			448

Postal.

The postal, telegraph, and telephone services continue as formerly, to be controlled by the Postmaster-General of the Union of South Africa. The expenditure is met from, and the revenue paid into, Swaziland funds.

There are 382 miles of trunk lines on the metallic circuit system connecting all district offices with the Administration headquarters at Mbabane. Communications with the Pigg's Peak office is through Barberton in the Transvaal. Telegraphic communication is available both between Bremersdorp and Mbabane with Johannesburg, Pretoria and other centres.

In South Swaziland a telephonic service only is provided, and the Hlatikulu district is connected up with Piet Retief in the Transvaal as well as with headquarters at Mbabane. A telephonic trunk line connects Gollel, which is the Swaziland border terminus of the Natal North Coast Railway Line, with Bremersdorp and Hlatikulu, passing agencies at Nsoko, Maloma and Kubuta. A branch line from Hlatikulu runs to the Mooihoek Valley.

Lines between Mbabane and Mankaiana and between Stegi and Goba (Portuguese East Africa) have been constructed.

The cost of running the postal service and the revenue derived therefrom for the past five years are as follows:—

Year.	*Expenditure.*	*Revenue.*
	£	£
1932-33	4,764	7,284
1933-34	4,539	5,417
1934-35	4,008	5,562
1935-36	4,382	8,622
1936-37	5,643	8,326

There are no wireless stations in the Territory, but licences have been issued to 64 holders of wireless receiving sets.

XII.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are two banks in the Territory, namely, Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) with three branches and one agency, and the Standard Bank of South Africa Limited, with one branch and one agency.

Digitized by Google

The amount at fixed deposit at Barclays Bank on 31st March, 1937, was £4,740, and the amount on current account amounted to £53,372. At the Standard Bank of South Africa Limited, the amounts were £480 and £4,730 respectively. The deposits in the savings departments of these two banks were £11,312 and £703 respectively.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks in the Territory. Loans to settlers are granted under the provisions of the Swaziland Land and Agricultural Loan Fund Proclamation, 1929. The Swaziland Co-operative Tobacco Company Limited, in the Southern District, is a limited liability company registered under the Co-operative Societies (Swaziland) Proclamation 1931. It was financed by the Administration to the extent of £2,000 as a capital loan expended upon buildings and plant, and to an amount not exceeding £10,000 as a seasonal loan for the payment of working expenses and for making advances to growers upon the delivery of their tobacco. In these respects the practice in the case of similar societies in the Union of South Africa was followed. The above-mentioned loans were granted on conditions laid down in the Loan Fund Proclamation No. 34 of 1929, as amended by Proclamations Nos. 13/1930, 7/1931, 34/1936 and 1/1937.

Currency.

Proclamation No. 55 of 1932 provided that both United Kingdom and Union coins should be current in Swaziland but that United Kingdom silver coinage should be withdrawn by the 15th of January, 1933, on which date it ceased to be legal tender.

Weights and Measures.

With the following exceptions, Imperial weights and measures are in use:—

Dry measure—
1 ton = 2,000 lb.

Linear measure—
1 rood = 12 Cape feet.
1 Cape foot = 1·033 English feet.

Liquid measure—
1 leaguer = 2 hogsheads.

Surface or land measure—
1 morgen = 600 square roods.
1 square rood = 144 square feet.
1,000 Cape feet = 1,033 English feet.
1,000 morgen = 2,116½ English acres.
1,000 yards = 914 metres.
1,000 Cape feet = 314·855 metres.
1,000 metres = 1,093·62 yards.
1 morgen = 0·8565 hectares.

Digitized by Google

XIII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Roads and Bridges.

The heaviest rainfall which the Territory had experienced since the introduction of the Road Motor Transport Service in 1927-28 was recorded this year. Considerable damage was done to all roads, and approaches to some of the bridges were washed away by the flooded rivers. Traffic was held up for short periods until temporary repairs could be carried out, or it was diverted to other routes.

A low level bridge construction programme made possible by a grant from the Colonial Development Fund was commenced and 11 bridges of the 16 approved were open for traffic by the end of the year.

Buildings.

The extension to the Hlatikulu Hospital costing £5,955 and provided for out of the Colonial Development Fund, was completed during the year and a commencement was made with new Headquarter's Offices at Mbabane.

Among the minor schemes were two new medical outposts and an extension of the Mbabane gaol for the isolation recidivists.

Water Supplies.

Water supplies at Stegi, Goedgegun and Hlatikulu villages are under consideration and the question of water supplies for Native areas by the construction of earth dams has been investigated by the High Commissioner's Agricultural Adviser and will form the subject of an application to the Colonial Development Fund Committee.

Staff.

Provision was made on the estimates for an Assistant Engineer, but the post was not filled until February, 1937.

XIV.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Administration of Justice.

The Roman Dutch Common Law, " save in so far as the same has been heretofore or may from time to time be modified by statute " was declared to be in force in Swaziland under Section 2 (1) of the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907. All statute laws of the Transvaal in force at the date of this Proclamation were declared to be in force. Subsequent laws have been promulgated by the High Commissioner under the authority of Orders in Council of 1903, 1906 and 1909.

Digitized by Google

Special Court of Swaziland.

In 1912 a Special Court, which has the powers and jurisdiction of a superior Court, was established, with an Advocate of the Transvaal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court as President. In 1934 a member of the English and Irish Bars was appointed President.

The other members consist of the Resident Commissioner, the Deputy Resident Commissioner, and the District Commissioners.

The Court holds sessions twice a year. By virtue of Proclamation No. 23 of 1935, one or more native assessors, appointed by the Paramount Chief, may be called to the assistance of the Court. When in session the Court consists of three members sitting without a jury. It has jurisdiction in all civil and criminal cases. When the Court is not in session, the Resident Commissioner or Deputy Resident Commissioner, as a member of the Court, has power to exercise the civil jurisdiction of the Special Court in all motions and applications for provisional sentence. The power of reviewing the proceedings of and hearing appeals from any inferior Court in Swaziland lies in this Court. When not in session the President of the Special Court, or, if so deputed, the Resident Commissioner or the Deputy Resident Commissioner reviews criminal cases.

Death sentences are carried out by the special warrant of the High Commissioner. There is a right of appeal to the Privy Council against any final judgment of the Special Court when the matter in dispute is of the value of £500 or upwards. By Proclamation No. 30 of 1935 an Attorney-General for the High Commission Territories was appointed who prosecutes for crimes and offences before the Special Court.

Courts of District Commissioners.

Courts of District Commissioners were established under section 9 of the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907. These Courts have jurisdiction in all civil proceedings in which neither party is a European, and in all criminal proceedings in which the accused is not a European; but District Commissioners do not have jurisdiction to try summarily any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to rape, or sedition. In the last cases mentioned and in other serious cases, the District Commissioners hold preparatory examinations, and if a *prima facie* case is made out the accused persons are committed for trial before the Special Court.

In civil cases in which any party thereto is a European, and in criminal cases where the accused is a European, District Commissioners have the jurisdiction conferred on Courts of Resident Magistrates in the Transvaal, or the jurisdiction established by any special Proclamation.

Digitized by Google

All sentences of imprisonment exceeding three months, or a fine of £25, or whipping, are subject to review by the Special Court.

There are three District Commissioners in charge of districts, and three Assistant District Commissioners in charge of sub-districts. Assistant District Commissioners have the same jurisdiction as District Commissioners.

Native Courts.

The Paramount Chief and other native Chiefs continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in all civil disputes in which natives only are concerned. An appeal lies to the Special Court whose decisions are final.

Civil Cases—Special Court.

Civil cases tried in the Special Court of Swaziland during the last four years were as follows:—

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936
At sessions of Special Court	7	2	1	—
Before Judge in Chambers	27	10	18	13

Police and Prisons.

The Swaziland Police Force was established under the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907. The personnel consists of:—

European.—1 Chief of Police and 23 non-commissioned officers and men.

Native.—109 non-commissioned officers and men.

The Swaziland Prison Department consists of two European gaolers and 34 native warders. There is a native wardress at the Mbabane gaol.

The principal prisons are at Mbabane, Hlatikulu and Bremersdorp. There are also prisons at Stegi, Mankaiana, and Pigg's Peak.

The Bremersdorp prison is a substantial masonry building erected before 1899. The other prisons are masonry buildings with corrugated-iron roofs and concrete floors.

At the Mbabane prison, which is typical of the other prisons, the prisoners sleep on grass mats and are provided with sufficient blankets. The prison is examined once a week by a Medical Officer. Taking the average number of prisoners in gaol throughout the year, there were, for each prisoner during the hours of sleep, 162 cubic feet of space. A new block of cells for housing the more hardened type of criminal is under construction. There are at present five cells for natives and two smaller ones for European prisoners, and four cells for solitary

Digitized by Google

confinement. There are four lavatories, one workshop, three kitchens, and three bathrooms. This prison is enclosed in a masonry wall.

Female prisoners are isolated from the others and are housed in a separate building with a separate yard. There is a kitchen, bathroom, lavatory, two cells for the prisoners, and one room for a wardress. Electric lights have been installed in the cells. Convicted male prisoners are employed upon general public works, building and roadmaking. Ministers of the various mission societies hold periodical services in the prisons.

Juvenile Offenders.

Provision is made for the detention of juvenile offenders in separate cells and they are isolated from adult prisoners. During this year 122 juvenile offenders were tried in the Courts of District Commissioners for the following offences:—

Culpable homicide	1
Housebreaking with intent to steal and theft	3
Malicious injury to property	3
Stock theft	32
Theft	50
Assault	24
Other offences	9
	122

Health of Prisoners.

The Principal Medical Officer reports that the health of prisoners was, as usual, excellent.

Remission of Sentences.

Under Gaol Regulations No. 167 (High Commissioner's Notice No. 180 of 1934) every prisoner whose sentence is six months or more is allowed a remission of one-fourth of his sentence, provided that every conviction for a breach of discipline shall cause a loss of as many days towards mitigation as may be decided on.

Criminal Statistics.

Persons proceeded against on charge of crime.

During the year 4,358 persons were proceeded against in Courts of District Commissioners for the following crimes:—

Culpable homicide	35
Other offences against the person	892
Offences against property	776
Other crimes	2,655

Of these 4,182 were males and 176 females.

Digitized by Google

Persons dealt with in Summary Courts for crimes and offences.

In the District Commissioners' Courts 3,874 persons were convicted summarily, and were sentenced as follows:—

Imprisonment	1,588
Whipping	124
Fine	1,709
Bound over, cautioned or discharged	453

Persons for trial in the Superior Court.

Thirty-two persons were committed by District Commissioners for trial in the Special Court of Swaziland. Of these, 21 were indicted by the Attorney-General. Of the 21 who were indicted for the crimes shown in the following table, three were discharged and the remaining 18 convicted.

Murder	3
Culpable homicide	9
Other offences against the person	3
Offences against property	3
Other crimes	1

Comparative Table.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences for the last four years:—

The number of summary convictions in Courts of District Commissioners.

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Offences against the person	513	622	752	795
Malicious injury to property	48	28	56	50
Other offences against property	375	382	603	541
Other crimes	360	501	677	572
Offences against Master and Servant Laws	112	68	58	70
Offences against Revenue Laws etc.	2,357	1,829	2,272	1,193
Miscellaneous minor offences	355	500	423	653
Totals	4,120	3,930	4,841	3,874

Number of convictions in Superior Courts (Special Court of Swaziland).

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Murder	8	6	5	3
Culpable homicide	10	10	3	9
Attempted murder	—	1	1	—
Rape	2	5	—	1
Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the person	5	4	2	2
Other offences against property	14	9	3	3
Other crimes	—	—	1	—
Totals	39	35	15	18

Digitized by Google

XV.—LEGISLATION.

The only legislation of importance passed during the year was the Liquor Licence Proclamation No. 42 of 1936.

There is no legislation in force dealing with factories, compensation for injuries or accidents, or legislative provisions for sickness, servants, or for old age, except in the case of sickness of domestic or agricultural servants.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following figures show the revenue and expenditure of the territory for the last five years:—

Revenue.

	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	35,225	44,098	45,019	41,586	43,584
Customs and Excise ...	15,499	16,176	18,657	19,822	21,530
Posts and Telegraphs	7,284	5,486	5,605	9,406	8,222
Licences	6,000	6,995	8,182	9,523	9,495
Revenue Stamps ...	1,443	1,309	1,151	981	1,367
Judicial Fines	1,419	1,521	1,985	1,870	2,148
Poll Tax	1,722	1,719	1,661	1,584	1,755
Income Tax	1,396	1,744	3,186	3,763	2,685
Native Passes	856	924	1,029	1,044	1,001
Dog Tax	2,655	2,765	2,765	2,567	2,787
Transfer Duty	841	1,520	2,158	1,328	1,319
Base Metal Royalty ...	234	248	319	919	591
Concession Rents ...	2,414	1,758	1,765	1,653	1,883
Cattle Dipping Charges	1,344	1,085	884	764	883
Miscellaneous	2,892	3,146	3,884	5,026	5,986
Levy on Salaries ...	2,079	1,875	1,192	916	—
Grant-in-aid, Expenses of Administration ...	27,900	28,500	60,000	48,000	—
Total Ordinary Revenue	111,203	120,869	159,442	150,752	105,236
Colonial Development Fund	1,858	6,406	12,795	12,251	13,896
Sale of Crown Lands ...	584	1,126	1,359	389	1,179
Sale of Government Building	1,045	—	—	—	—
Parliamentary Grant-in-aid	—	—	—	—	32,500
	£114,690	£128,401	£173,596	£163,392	£152,811

Digitized by Google

Expenditure.

	1932-33. £	1933-34. £	1934-35. £	1935-36. £	1936-37. £
Resident Commissioner	8,152	7,295	7,588	7,473	8,372
District Administration	8,876	8,315	9,250	9,133	8,673
Police	16,491	14,457	14,780	15,373	15,583
Posts and Telegraphs	4,764	4,667	4,194	5,849	6,066
Administration of Justice	5,976	7,984	8,467	8,428	8,380
Public Works Department	2,364	2,415	3,067	2,445	2,795
Public Works Recurrent	10,044	10,192	14,471	14,574	15,714
Medical	11,973	11,969	13,827	14,545	16,558
Education	10,281	10,412	10,658	9,603	10,506
Veterinary and Agriculture	13,928	17,797	22,013	19,017	23,673
Deeds Registry and Survey Services ...	1,250	750	750	750	750
Interest	4,855	3,881	2,205	2,276	2,212
Sinking Fund	1,264	1,264	1,264	1,264	1,264
Allowances, etc., to Native Chiefs ...	1,595	1,599	1,557	1,583	1,569
Pensions and Gratuities	6,308	6,468	4,889	7,506	4,992
Miscellaneous	3,433	3,335	3,165	4,107	4,823
Surveys	2	7	37	54	54
Repayment of Colonial Development Fund Loans	—	—	—	—	61
Total Ordinary Expenditure	111,556	112,807	122,182	123,980	132,009
Public Works Extraordinary	—	424	2,893	3,938	4,528
Colonial Development Fund	1,850	9,006	13,251	7,337	15,725
Purchase of House for Police	—	661	—	—	—
	113,406	122,898	138,326	135,255	152,262

Public Debt.

The Public Debt of Swaziland consists of the following:—

	£
Swaziland Consolidated Loan.—Bearing interest at 3½ per cent. per annum, and repayable by a sinking fund in nineteen years from 1st April, 1924. The amount standing to the credit of the fund on the 31st March, 1937, was £21,827	35,000
Parliamentary Grants-in-aid.—For expenses of Administration. From 1928-29 to 31st March, 1937	283,400
Parliamentary Grants-in-aid.—For purposes of Land and Agricultural Loan Fund. From 1929-30 to 31st March, 1937	21,573
Loans from the Colonial Development Fund.—From 1930-31 to 31st March, 1937	61,106
	£401,079

Digitized by Google

Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Assets.	£	*Liabilities.*	£
Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas)	5,312	Swazi National Fund ...	743
Balances in hands of Sub-Accountants ...	8,526	Swazi Nation Trust Fund	20,000
Advances	8,044	Guardians Fund ...	4,414
Imprests	89	Prisoners' Property ...	20
Swaziland Co-operative Tobacco Co., Seasonal Loan	500	Customs Suspense ...	127
Joint Colonial Fund ...	2,000	Deposits	1,820
Dairy Butter Levy Fund	26	Native Recruiting Corporation Ltd. ...	980
Balance of Surplus and Deficit Account ...	6,384	Agricultural Loan Fund	2,277
		Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) Co-operative Tobacco Co., Ltd., Account, 1936 ...	500
	£30,881		£30,881

Description of the Main Heads of Taxation.

The main heads of taxation and the amounts collected during the financial year 1936-7 are as follows:—

	£
Native Tax	43,584
Customs and Excise	21,530
Licences	9,495
Income Tax	2,685
Dog Tax	2,787
European Poll Tax	1,755

Native Tax.—A tax of 35s. per annum is paid by each adult male native who is unmarried or who has one wife. Natives with more than one wife pay 30s. in respect of each wife with a maximum tax of £4 10s. The District Commissioners of each District collect most of this tax at various camps selected for the convenience of the natives. Chiefs and Indunas are responsible for bringing in tax defaulters to the district offices.

Customs and Excise.—Under the Customs Agreement with the Union Government of 1910 (see Chapter VII), Swaziland receives a proportionate share of the total collections of the Union. The only dues collected locally are those on beer and spirits. Duty on spirits is levied at the rate of 12s. 6d. per proof gallon and on beer at 10d. per standard gallon. Local collections in respect of these beverages during the year 1936-7 amounted to £1,363.

Licences.—The revenue under this head is composed mainly of sums paid for trading, motor, labour recruiting, hotel and banking licences.

Digitized by Google

Trades and businesses are subject to annual licences in terms of the Schedule to Proclamation No. 53 of 1931. Liquor and hotel licences are controlled by Transvaal Liquor Licensing Ordinance No. 32 of 1902 as amended and in force in Swaziland. Game licences and firearm licences are governed by Transvaal Ordinance No. 6 of 1905 as amended and in force in Swaziland, and Proclamation No. 21 of 1908, respectively. Licences on mining, labour agents and motor cars are levied by authority of Proclamations No. 25 of 1912, No. 19 of 1913 and No. 26 of 1916, respectively.

The following table gives the chief classes of licences and the amount collected in respect of the last three financial years:—

	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
	£	£	£
Firearms	202	140	126
Labour	579	265	469
Liquor and billiards	615	677	662
Trading	2,537	3,115	3,028
Game	538	572	513
Bank	150	100	150
Motor	2,242	2,673	3,011
Mining	1,287	1,949	1,522
Miscellaneous	32	32	14
	£8,182	£9,523	£9,495

Income Tax.—The collection of income tax is governed by the Swaziland Income Tax Proclamation No. 31 of 1921 as amended. The general provisions of the principal Proclamation apply each year to the determination of the taxable amount on which the tax is to be levied, and the collection of the amount payable in respect of that taxable amount, but the actual rates to be levied are fixed by Proclamation each year. Super tax is levied by virtue of Proclamation No. 18 of 1930.

The taxes imposed for the year 1936 were (1) Normal tax, (2) Super tax, and the rates were fixed as follows:—

(1) *Normal tax.*—In the case of companies, for each pound of taxable amount, one shilling and sixpence. In the case of persons other than companies,

(*a*) when the taxable amount does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount;

(*b*) when the taxable amount exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of taxable amount, two shillings.

Digitized by Google

(2) *Super Tax*:—

(*a*) when the amount subject to super tax does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, one shilling and as many five-hundredths of one penny as there are pounds in that amount;

(*b*) when the amount subject to super tax exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, five shillings.

The amount collected for the Income Tax year ended 30th June, 1936, was as follows:—

	£
Arrear Tax	634
Current Tax	2,050
	£2,684

The following table shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid from each source:—

Source:—	£
Traders	247
Civil servants	384
Employed persons	72
Others	401
Non-residents	946
	£2,050

The following table shows the number of taxpayers and the amount of income taxed in the relative categories for the year ended the 30th June, 1936:—

Number.	*Category.*	*Taxable Income.*
	£	£
10	500 and under	4,065
13	501 to 750	9,024
6	751 to 1,000	5,301
4	1,001 to 1,500	5,087
6	1,501 and over	22,392
39		£45,869

Dog Tax.—A tax of five shillings per dog per year is levied on all dogs throughout the Territory.

European Poll Tax.—A poll tax of £2 per annum is paid by every European male of the age of 21 years and upwards. This tax is also paid by those natives who have been exempted from the laws relating to passes and the payment of native tax under the provisions of the Coloured Persons Exemption (Relief) Proclamation 1901 of the Transvaal as in force in Swaziland.

Digitized by Google

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Land in Swaziland is held under freehold title subject to the mineral servitudes.

Registration is effected in the Swaziland Deeds Office, and surveys are controlled by the Surveyor-General for the Transvaal. All land and mineral concessions and the native areas were surveyed during the years 1904 to 1908.

At the five townships, Mbabane, Bremersdorp, Hlatikulu, Goedgegun and Stegi, several lots have been sold for residential or trading purposes.

No surveys of importance were undertaken. No geological survey of the Territory has been made.

Mining.

Mining is carried out under the authority of concessions granted by the late Swazi King, Mbandeni, and under the Crown Minerals Order in Council.

Alluvial tin mining continued in the vicinity of Mbabane.

Up to the present, the Government has thrown open for prospecting areas aggregating 2,475 square miles, partly as Crown Mineral Areas and partly by consent of concessionaires under the Mineral Concession Areas Proclamation No. 47 of 1927.

In 1932 a Crown mineral area in north-western Swaziland measuring approximately 77 square miles was thrown open for prospecting and mining. There has been little activity in this area.

Patents and Trade Marks.

The following return shows the number of patents and trade marks registered during the past five years:—

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Patents	1	—	1	1	—
Trade marks	6	5	6	7	15

The following return shows the number of companies registered during the last five years:—

1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
2	—	1	—	—

APPENDIX.

Bibliography.

Title.	*Publisher.*	*Price.*
Report on Financial and Economic Situation of Swaziland, 1932. (Cmd. 4114.)	H.M. Stationery Office.	2s. 6d.

(45889—48) Wt. 2701—3922 625 12/37 P. St. G. 377/ 7

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps, [Colonial No. 111] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent er Street

or through any

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1831

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1830

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

BARBADOS, 1936-37

(For Reports for 1934-35 and 1935-36 see No. 1725 and No. 1762 respectively (Price 1s. 6d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 1s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIF[illegible] BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
[illegible]gh any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1830

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

BARBADOS, 1936-37

(For Reports for 1934-35 and 1935-36 see No. 1725 and No. 1762 respectively (Price 1s. 6d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 1s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BARBADOS FOR 1936-7

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
I.	GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY	2
II.	GOVERNMENT	4
III.	POPULATION...	6
IV.	HEALTH	8
V.	HOUSING	10
VI.	PRODUCTION...	11
VII.	COMMERCE	12
VIII.	WAGES AND COST OF LIVING	15
IX.	EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS	18
X.	COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT	22
XI.	BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	26
XII.	PUBLIC WORKS	27
XIII.	JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS	28
XIV.	LEGISLATION	30
XV.	PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION	31
XVI.	MISCELLANEOUS	34
	APPENDIX—BIBLIOGRAPHY	35
	MAP.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population at the end of 1936 of 188,294. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the Island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the Island in great numbers.

The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the Island in the name of King James.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Cat.
Southern
1-31-37

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonizing expedition, which landed 80 settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the " Caribbee Islands " in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629 in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the Island.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle and himself, but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663, and by the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Natural and climatic conditions give justification to the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The Island is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies, while visitors from northern climates, in considerable numbers find it an agreeable change. There is little variation

Digitized by Google

in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° Fahr. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" has this to say about Barbados:—

> "Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics . . . . The history of the Island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

Unlike most of the other West Indian Islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession.

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the Island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831 and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Barbados possesses a representative Legislature but not full responsible government. The Crown retains only the right of veto on legislation, but the Home Government retains the appointment and control of the public officers, except the Colonial Treasurer who is nominated annually by the House of Assembly and his appointment confirmed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, a Legislative Council of nine members appointed by the King, and a House of Assembly of 24 members, elected annually on the basis of a moderate franchise.

The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

For electoral purposes the Island is divided into 12 constituencies, viz., the city of Bridgetown, and the 11 parishes of Saint Michael, Saint George, Christ Church, Saint Philip, Saint John, Saint Joseph, Saint Thomas, Saint Andrew, Saint James, Saint Peter and Saint Lucy, each of which returns two members to the General Assembly. The qualifications of members and

Digitized by Google

electors are regulated by the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2). Qualification of members is set out in section 2 of this Act and is briefly as follows:—

(1) Ownership of 30 acres of land, with a dwelling-house of the value of not less than £300.

(2) Ownership of any real property of the absolute value of £1,500.

(3) Beneficial interest in a property the rental value of which is not less than £120 per annum.

(4) Receipt either personally or by one's wife of an annual income of not less than £200.

Qualification of voters is set out in section 3 of the Act and is, briefly, as follows:—

(1) Possession of land or freehold property of the annual value of not less than £5 or receipt of rents and profits in respect of such property for at least 12 months prior to claim to be registered.

(2) Possession of land, house or place of business parochially assessed at £15 per annum.

(3) Payment of taxes of not less than £2 per annum in respect of Bridgetown, and of not less than £1 per annum in respect of Parochial Constituencies.

(4) Receipt of salary or income of not less than £50 per annum.

(5) Recognition as a barrister, solicitor, physician or surgeon; or the holding of a degree of any university of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland or a testamur from Codrington College.

(6) Occupation of a house rated at not less than £50 per annum and payment of rent of not less than £15 per annum.

The Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9), regulates the procedure at elections of members to serve in the General Assembly and in the several Vestries of the Island.

The total number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls at the present time is 6,409 and is made up as follows:—

Bridgetown, 982; Saint Michael, 1,939; Christ Church, 1,083; Saint George, 320; Saint Philip, 317; Saint John, 147; Saint Joseph, 267; Saint Andrew, 234; Saint Peter, 210; Saint Lucy, 263; Saint James, 211; Saint Thomas, 326.

The total at the time of the last election—December, 1936, was 6,299. It is is now over the number included in 1931 which was 5,155. A portion of this increase is due to the inclusion of the police in the electoral rolls.

Digitized by Google

The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 7·39 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 10 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last (1921) census returns.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Executive Council appointed by the Crown, and consists of the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, *ex-officio,* and two other members. The Executive Committee—appointed under the provisions of the Executive Committee Act, 1891 (No. 24)—consists of the members of the Executive Council, *ex-officio,* one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly, nominated annually by the Governor. This body introduces all money votes, prepares the Estimates and initiates all Government measures.

Local Government is in the hands of 11 Parish Boards or Vestries. The Vestry is elected annually under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2), and the Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9). The Rector of the parish is *ex-officio* Chairman of the Vestry. The functions of the Vestry include the appointment of Guardians for the care of the sick and poor, of Commissioners of Health for the control of sanitation, and of Highways Commissioners for the upkeep of roads. To provide funds for these purposes the Vestries levy rates on lands and houses, and taxes on trade, vehicles, draught animals, etc.

III.—POPULATION.

The population on the 31st of December, 1936, was estimated to be 188,294, 85,134 being males and 103,160 females. The increase over the estimated total for 1935 is 3,382 or 1·7 per cent. and is made up as follows:—

Natural increase, births exceeding deaths by	2,474
and immigration exceeding emigration by	908
	3,382

Estimates of population so calculated have usually been found to be exaggerated when a census is taken.

Based on the returns given in the last census (1921) the population is made up as follows:—

	Per cent.
White	7
Black	71
Mixed	22

The last census was taken in 1921; therefore the figures given in the last paragraph, as well as this, are only approximations. The tendency for large numbers of the urban population to drift into the metropolitan parish of Saint Michael is very pronounced, and has been much encouraged during the last two decades by

Digitized by Google

the indiscriminate dividing and selling or letting of land lots which was not controlled until 1928. The following shows, with as reasonable a degree of accuracy as is expected in such approximations, the estimated numbers in each parish:—

Parish.	*Estimated population.*
Saint Michael	67,000
Christ Church	24,000
Saint George	14,500
Saint Philip	15,500
Saint John	10,500
Saint James	11,000
Saint Thomas	8,000
Saint Peter	9,500
Saint Lucy	8,500
Saint Joseph	8,000
Saint Andrew	8,500

The density per square mile for the Island is 1,114.

Marriages.

There were 981 marriages performed during 1936, 719 by the Church of England, 94 by the Methodists, 25 by the Moravians, 15 by the Roman Catholics, 24 by civil authorities, and the remainder by 21 other denominations.

The rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 10·51.

The illiterate percentage among those married during the year is 13·51 as against 12·7 last year.

Births and Deaths.

The following are the figures for the last five years:—

Year.	*Births.*			*Deaths.*		
	No.	*Rate per M.*	*Illegitimate percentage.*	*No.*	*Rate per M.*	*Percentage uncertified.*
1932 ...	5,391	30·76	59·69	3,325	18·97	2·2
1933 ...	5,316	29·79	59·91	3,593	20·13	2·6
1934 ...	5,380	29·44	57·42	4,176	23·04	2·8
1935 ...	5,315	28·94	59·00	3,702	20·16	1·2
1936 ...	5,933	31·80	59·00	3,459	18·54	1·5

Infant Mortality.

The infant mortality rate has decreased from 220 last year to 198.

Immigration and Emigration.

Each year of the past decade, with the exception of 1928, shows an increase of immigration over emigration. This increase in 1935 amounted to 859. The average net increase for each of the past five years was approximately 980. During 1936 there were 9,661 immigrants as compared with 8,753 emigrants.

Digitized by Google

IV.—HEALTH.

General, Principal Causes of Death, etc.

The climate is salubrious and semi-tropical. The maximum temperature varies between 82° Fahr. in the cool months and 90° Fahr. in the hot season, the minimum being between 69° Fahr. and 73° Fahr. The Island is a natural health resort.

Malaria made its appearance in the Island in October, 1927; but since the 17th October, 1929, no new case has occurred, and no anopheline mosquito larvae have been found since January, 1930.

The causes of death are classified in accordance with the Intermediate International List of Causes of Deaths as adopted for use in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, some being further sub-divided to meet local requirements.

The following are the principal diseases or groups of diseases responsible for the mortality:—

Causes.	*Total Deaths.*
Syphilis	240*
Diarrhoea and enteritis	482†
Diseases of the heart	210
Old age	202
Nephritis	275
Pneumonia	206
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	241
Diseases of arteries and veins	150
Congenital debility	199
Cancer	141
Other diseases of early infancy	169
Tuberculosis	120
Bronchitis	65
Pellagra	73

* Of these 172 were under the age of five years.
† Of these 424 were under the age of five years.

Treatment of the Sick, Medical Assistance, etc.

The General Hospital with an X-ray department is maintained by the Government and controlled by a Board of Directors. The surgical wards are excellently equipped and work of a very high order is done. Patients from any parish, sent in accordance with very liberal rules, are received and treated free. There are also pay wards of two grades attached. The resident staff consists of five surgeons, a matron, an assistant matron, a tutor sister, a theatre sister, a pay ward sister and 83 local nurses. The visiting staff consists of three visiting surgeons, three assistant visiting surgeons, one ophthalmic surgeon, one assistant ophthalmic surgeon, one ear, nose and throat surgeon, one assistant ear, nose and throat surgeon, one dental surgeon, one radiologist, and a masseuse.

Digitized by Google

The Government also maintains a well organized Mental Hospital and a Leper Hospital. Treatment on recognized up-to-date lines is carried out at both institutions. Persons who were inmates of the Leper Hospital and have been discharged as cured are assisted from Government funds if found to be in need.

Each parish maintains an almshouse. These 11 almshouses, besides being places of refuge for the destitute poor, are in most, if not all, instances, practically cottage hospitals. Isolation hospitals are also provided by each parish and would be available in time of epidemic disease.

In each parish there is a parochial medical officer (in Saint Michael, two) whose duty it is to attend the sick poor, either in their homes or at the almshouse, free or at reduced fees. Dispensaries for the cheap supply of medicine are maintained in seven of the 11 parishes; in the other four the parochial medical officer or a local druggist is paid to supply medicine free.

A baby welfare clinic is conducted voluntarily by a committee of ladies, assisted by a medical practitioner, and does very good work, but is greatly hampered by lack of funds. The Government and Vestry of Saint Michael each grant the organization £150 per annum. For 1936-7 however, the Government grant was increased by £50. Any expenditure beyond this has to be made up from donations and subscriptions by private individuals, etc. The number of " new " babies entered for treatment was 377, and 1,200 pints of milk and 1,443 lb. of barley were distributed free.

During 1935, a new building was erected on the ground very kindly given by Mr. George Browne, C.M.G., in memory of his mother, first President of the League, who for several years most generously placed her house at their disposal. The building was opened in 1936.

Venereal disease clinics have been established at the General Hospital by the Government, and by the parochial authorities, with certain assistance from the Government clinic, in Saint George, Saint John, Saint James, Saint Thomas, Saint Peter, Saint Lucy, Saint Joseph and Saint Andrew.

The names of 495 persons appeared on the Roll and Register kept under the Midwives and Nurses Registration Act; 188 as midwives and nurses, 230 as midwives only, and 77 as nurses only.

There is a well-equipped Bacteriological and Pathological Laboratory which is maintained by the Government.

A sanitation officer was appointed in November, 1936, and a system of inspection of children at the elementary schools has been initiated.

Digitized by Google

Organization.

The organization for public health work consists of a Chief Medical Officer, a Sanitation Officer, the General Board of Health, and 11 Boards of Commissioners of Health (one for each parish). The Boards are appointed annually. The Port Health Officer and his assistant are responsible for all quarantine measures.

The General Board of Health employs six inspectors for general work throughout the Island, and the Boards of Commissioners of Health employ 75, of whom 26 are in the parish of Saint Michael and 15 in Christ Church.

Public measures are carried out by 11 independent boards of Commissioners of Health, none of which has an expert adviser equivalent to a Medical Officer of Health. Their activities can be co-ordinated by the General Board of Health to a minimal extent, and that only by invitation.

Barbados is a party to the West Indian Intercolonial Sanitary Convention which regulates quarantine procedure among the British West Indies, excluding Jamaica and British Guiana. Some of these colonies also adhere to the International Sanitary Convention (Paris), but although recommended as advisable by the Quarantine Board and the Quarantine Officers, Barbados cannot adhere as the port of Bridgetown has not the necessary organization or equipment.

At the examinations of the British West Indian Centre of the Royal Sanitary Institute held in British Guiana in 1935, one of the 15 men in Barbados who are qualified to hold the post of Sanitary Inspector sat for and obtained the Certificate in " Tropical Hygiene for Sanitary Inspectors ". No candidates attended the last examination in Trinidad in 1936.

Drainage Works, etc.

There are very few swampy places in Barbados, and it has not been necessary for the Government or parishes to undertake drainage works.

V.—HOUSING.

Wage-earners.

The general standard of sanitary arrangements of the cottages of the wage-earning population and peasant proprietors is very low. These cottages, which are almost invariably constructed of wood with shingled roofs, are small, and generally much overcrowded.

About 68 per cent. of the entire population of the Island lives in cottages of less than three rooms, the kitchen, if there is one, or other arrangements for cooking, being separate. Very few

Digitized by Google

are provided with sanitary arrangements which can be considered even moderately satisfactory. The letting separately of rooms in a building is not extensively practised except in certain parts of Bridgetown. Labourers on plantations and in factories live near the estates in small detached cottages often owned by themselves but on rented land. Frequent inspections and the enforcement of the sanitary laws are the means relied on for dealing with the primitive sanitary arrangements in slum areas. About 75 per cent. of the occupants own the cottages or houses in which they live, but few own the land on which the buildings stand.

Better class of houses, etc.

The better class of house is well constructed and is usually supplied with a water-borne system of sewage disposal with which little, if any, fault can be found. These houses are also in almost every case connected with the Government waterworks system which furnishes a pure and continuous piped supply. Six hundred and seven standposts at which good drinking water can be obtained free of charge were in use on 31st March, 1937. Except in a few localities which are difficult of access, it is rare that any dwelling is situated farther than half-a-mile from a standpost.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The rainfall for the year 1936, although approximating in its total to the figure recorded in the previous year, was not so well distributed throughout the Island, with the exception of the northern parish, Saint Lucy, in which the precipitation was ideal.

As a result, it is anticipated that the crop now being reaped will not be more than 2,000 tons under the record of 129,319 tons of the previous year.

Besides the dark crystal sugar which amounted to 102,057 tons in 1936, there continue to be made small tonnages of muscovado and hogshead sugars. The amount of the former manufactured each year depends on the market in Canada for "choice molasses", as the process used involves the production of both these commodities.

Hogshead sugar is almost entirely required for incorporating into certain classes of biscuits, and the demand is consequently limited to a few hundred tons each year.

In addition to the above sugar-cane products, another molasses is made entirely from the fresh sugar-cane juice from which no sugar has been extracted. This is known as fancy molasses, and provides the sucrose portion of the diet of the great majority of lumbermen and fisherfolk in Eastern Canada. The equivalent of twenty to twenty-seven thousand tons of sugar are manufactured annually into fancy molasses and for a number

Digitized by Google

of years the rationalization of this trade has presented difficult problems, which the large over-production of fancy molasses in 1935 brought to a head.

Legislation was enacted to control the 1936 production and again this year, with the result that it is anticipated that by the end of the 1937 shipping season, all surplus stocks will have gone into consumption.

An Act to establish a Bank for the granting of loans to peasant owners was passed by the Legislature in November, 1936. The personnel of the Peasants' Loan Bank consists of five persons appointed by the Governor, Legislative Council, House of Assembly and the Agricultural Society. At their first meeting the Bank appointed a Manager and, in the near future, arrangements will be made to advance loans to peasants under this Act.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Colony and of imports and exports for the last five years is shown in the following table:—

Year.	*Imports.* £	*Exports.* £	*Total Trade.* £
1932	1,656,876	1,379,006	3,035,882
1933	1,740,161	1,378,705	3,118,866
1934	1,914,554	1,479,277	3,393,831
1935	1,840,783	1,135,136	2,975,919
1936	2,004,484	1,493,335	3,497,819

The particulars of goods imported and entered for transhipment during the last five years is shown below. Values are no longer kept, but only the number of packages.

Year.	£	*No. of Packages.*
1932	185,413	—
1933	—	182,007
1934	—	199,512
1935	—	230,212
1936	—	229,530

Imports during 1936 as compared with 1935 show an increase of £163,701. The principal increases of imports are seen in the following:—Machinery for sugar £22,510; electrical apparatus (other than radios) £21,578; oils: gas, solar, diesel, power and other petroleum distillate fuels £18,165; flour wheaten or rye £16,275; boots and shoes all kinds £12,906; wood unmanufactured—other kinds (including Douglas Fir) £12,302; bags and sacks (empty) £12,242; apparel other than socks and stockings £11,880; parcel post (dutiable) £11,530; other cotton manufactures except apparel £11,432; artificial silk piece goods £10,383; pork salted £10,083; fish, dried, salted or smoked £9,880; wool and woollen manufactures except apparel £9,860; hardware all kinds £8,836; shingles £5,940; motor cars and trucks £4,796.

Digitized by Google

The principal decreases occurred in:—Staves and shooks £24,005; iron and steel manufactures all kinds £15,851; rice £9,935; crude oil £6,469; vegetables, fresh: onions and potatoes £5,698; seeds for expressing oil therefrom: cotton seed £4,951; oilmeal and oil-cake £3,836; coal, coke and patent fuel £3,317; margarine £3,103; meat, fresh £2,951; medicines and drugs £1,818; bacon and hams £1,661; manures other kinds £1,557.

For the five years prior to 1935 the average quantity of coal taken by steamers as bunkers was 3,967 tons. In 1936 the number of tons taken was nil. The following figures relate to the export of coal as bunkers during the last five years:—

Year.	*Steamships.*	*Tons of Coal.*
1932	12	1,390
1933	10	1,126
1934	16	956
1935	1	15
1936	—	—

The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin of the largest proportion of imports into the Colony. The following figures show the distribution of the Colony's import trade for the last five years:—

	1932. Per cent.	*1933. Per cent.*	*1934. Per cent.*	*1935. Per cent.*	*1936. Per cent.*
United Kingdom ...	45·6	48·0	42·3	40·9	42·7
Canada	15·1	11·8	14·4	14·1	14·1
Other parts of the British Empire.	18·1	17·5	18·0	18·9	18·5
United States of America	10·2	10·4	12·9	11·7	10·4
Other foreign countries	11·0	12·3	12·4	14·4	14·3

The value of imports from the above-named places for 1936 exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows:—

	£
United Kingdom	855,024
Canada	283,387
Other parts of the British Empire	369,798
United States of America	208,847
Other foreign countries	287,055

Total imports are classified as follows:—

	£
Food, drink, etc.	717,824
Raw materials	183,221
Manufactured articles	1,040,678
Animals not for food	9,327
	£1,951,050
Specie, parcel post	53,434
	£2,004,484

Digitized by Google

Imports of bullion and specie amounted to £373.

The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows:—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and shoes	3,054	173
Butter	203	—
Oilmeal (cattle food)	1	31,473
Cornmeal	47	10,211
Fish (salted)	5,272	—
Flour	46,738	27
Oats	16,776	—
Manures	13,800	3,755
Salt beef	1,043	618
Salt pork	27,017	6,150
Wood (various) (manufactured and unmanufactured)	76,532	39,979

The total value of exports was £1,493,335 of which £1,355,809 represents the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony and £137,526 the value of items re-exported. As compared with the four previous years, the quantity and value of the principal articles of local produce exported are as follows:—

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Sugar—					
Tons ...	74,710	78,994	87,459	39,392	97,811
Value £ ...	732,948	788,183	774,714	330,550	772,046
Molasses—					
Gal. ...	8,541,078	9,003,274	11,626,180	10,785,568	10,592,694
Value £ ...	423,175	436,812	536,679	637,096	546,291
Cotton—					
lb.	21,561	69,605	1,670	41,277	11,295
Value £ ...	963	3,149	90	2,775	740
Rum—					
Gal. ...	47,137	41,926	58,024	77,892	109,744
Value £ ...	4,517	4,018	5,561	6,491	10,289

In addition to the rum exported, the quantity consumed locally during the year amounted to 199,939 gallons.

The value of minor exports locally produced or manufactured was as follows:—

	£
Bay Rum	351
Biscuits	10,567
Cotton Seed Meal	334
Fruit (tamarind)	3,454
Hides and Skins	4,441
Lime, "Building"	2,768
Manjak	204
Vegetables, fresh	2,222

Digitized by Google

The following table gives the value of the domestic exports to the various countries for the past five years:—

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom...	324,807	442,309	171,646	32,103	438,440
Canada	707,533	702,916	1,021,123	790,182	759,195
Other parts of the British Empire.	73,951	71,580	76,882	76,533	62,059
United States of America.	82,260	37,000	66,684	92,800	88,451
Other foreign countries.	6,717	3,712	6,310	7,446	6,770
Stores (ships) ...	440	676	341	662	894
	1,195,708	1,258,193	1,342,986	999,726	1,355,809

The percentage of increases and decreases of the domestic exports to the above places as compared with 1935 are:—

	Increase per cent.	*Decrease per cent.*
United Kingdom	29·0	—
Canada	—	22·8
Other parts of the British Empire... ...	—	3·1
United States of America	—	2·8
Other foreign countries	—	·2

Canada remains the largest purchaser of the principal domestic products of the Island, namely, sugar and molasses.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages.

The average rates of wages paid to estate labourers are:—Men, 1s. 6d. to 2s. per day; women, 10d. to 1s. 3d. per day; children, 6d. to 8d. per day. These labourers generally live in houses which they own, but on land belonging to the estates. In the purchase and repair of their houses they receive assistance from their employers, who deduct the amounts advanced in instalments from their wages. They pay a small weekly rent for the plots on which their houses are situated.

The activities of the port of Bridgetown furnish employment for a large number of casual labourers. The average wages are as follows:—a lighter crew of four men receive from $4·15 to $6·35 per trip, according to the size of the lighter, when handling general cargo, and from $5·40 to $7·15 per trip when handling a cargo of coal. Overtime rates are double the ordinary rates. Ships' labourers are paid $1·50 each per day for general cargo and from $1·50 to $2·40 per day for a cargo of coal, according to the nature of the duties, e.g., guymen are paid $1·50 per day and spaders $2·40. Overtime is at the rate of

Digitized by Google

18 cents per hour. In steamers' warehouses permanent labourers are paid from $5·00 to $6·00 per week, casual labourers $1·20 per day. They receive overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour. Boatmen engaged in attending on the loading or discharging of steamers are paid at the rate of $1·00 per day with overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour.

The wages of artisans are as follows:—Carpenters, masons and mechanics: foremen from 3s. to 5s. per day, others from 1s. 9d. to 4s. 2d. per day.

Domestic servants in the employ of persons of the upper class are paid wages at the following rates per week:—

Butler	10s. to 15s.
Housemaid	6s. to 8s.
Nurse	6s. to 10s.
Cook	10s. to 12s. 6d.
Chauffeur	20s. to 30s.
Gardener	8s. to 10s.
Laundress	6s. to 8s.

In the homes of the respectable middle class, domestic servants are paid at an average of 12s. 6d. to £1 5s. per month with or without food as the case may be.

Fishermen are recruited from the agricultural class. Some fishermen own their boats, while others use the boats of private owners and are given a percentage of the catch.

In the Government clerical service, salaries range from £50 per annum for junior cadets to £400 for chief clerks. Heads of departments, magistrates and judges receive salaries varying from £500 to £600, while higher legal and other posts are paid at the rate of £1,000 to £1,200.

Police constables are paid from £70 per annum for third-class constables to £135 per annum for sergeants; prison warders from £75 to £125 per annum, chief warder £200 per annum; matrons from £45 to £90 per annum, chief matron £150 per annum. Attendants at the Government Industrial Schools, Mental Hospital and Leper Asylum from £40 to £100 per annum for males and from £30 to £70 for females. Head male attendants from £150 to £200 per annum; head female attendants from £90 to £150 per annum; postmen from £35 to £55 per annum.

In the Public Works Department the following scales of wages are paid:—

I. *General Works*:—Artisans, 3s. to 4s. per day; labourers, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. per day.

II. *Waterworks*:—Plumbers, 18s. to 35s. per week; jointers, 15s. per week; tap repairers, 10s. to 17s. per week; district foremen, 16s. 8d. to £1 5s. per week; engine drivers, 3s. 6d. to 5s. per day; firemen, 2s. 6d. per day; labourers, men, 1s. 9d. to 2s. per day; women, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per day.

Digitized by Google

Railway employees are paid as follows:—Locomotive drivers, £1 15s. per week; firemen, 18s. per week; cleaners, £1 per week; artisans, 3s. per day; guards, £1 10s. per week; platelayers, etc., 1s. to 2s. 4d. per day; porters, messengers, etc., 6s. to 16s. 3d. per week.

The employees of the *Central Road Board* are paid as follows:—Road overseers, 2s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. per day; roller drivers and mechanics, 4s. 2d. to 5s. per day; artisans, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 2d. per day, and by task; labourers, 10d. to 2s. 3d. per day.

Cost of Living.

The ordinary prices of necessary commodities are as follows:—

Cornmeal	1½d. per lb.
Sugar (white)	1¾d. per lb.
Firewood	1s. 8d. per 100 lb.
Milk (condensed)	3½d. to 5d. per tin.
Milk (fresh)	2d. to 2½d. per pint.
Rice	1½d. per lb.
Beef (salt)	5d. to 6d. per lb.
Beef (fresh)	6d. to 9d. per lb.
Pork (salt)	8d. per lb.
Pork (fresh)	6d. to 9d. per lb.
Mutton (fresh)	1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb.
Flour	1½d. per lb.
Salmon	6d. to 1s. 3d. per tin.
Fish (fresh)	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Fish (salt)	4d. to 8d. per lb.
Grain (whole peas)	2d. per pint.
Grain (split peas)	2d. per pint.
Tea	1s. 8d. to 3s. 4d. per lb.
Margarine	10d. to 1s. per lb.
Coffee (grain)	6d. to 8d. per lb.
Coffee (ground)	1s. to 1s. 8d. per lb.
Kerosene Oil	1½d. to 2d. per pint.
Soap (household)	7d. to 9d. per bar.
Cocoa	8d. to 1s. per lb.
Bread (white)	4d. per lb.
Butter (fresh)	1s. 9d. to 2s. per lb.
Cheese	1s. 6d. per lb.
Eggs	9d. to 1s. 3d. per doz.

In the case of Government officials quarters partly furnished, are provided for the Colonial Secretary (on payment of rent) and unfurnished quarters (free of rent) for the Director of Agriculture, the Commissioner of Police, and a few other officials. Head teachers at the principal schools are provided with quarters and, in some instances unmarried teachers are also provided with quarters. The cost of accommodation including meals at the two principal hotels is from 12s. 6d. a day upwards. Private board and lodging is sometimes obtainable at about £12 per month. Laundry charges in the case of an unmarried officer amount to about £1 10s. a month, and transport to about £5 a month. These figures apply in the case of

Digitized by Google

an officer appointed from abroad; local officers can, of course, live more cheaply. Unfurnished or furnished houses in residential districts are obtained only with difficulty; the normal rent in the case of the former is about £100 a year and in the case of the latter about £150 a year.

The cost of living for the labouring classes is moderate. The price of clothing has decreased considerably during recent years. The staple diet of the labourers is rice, flour, sugar, cornmeal, local crops such as sweet potatoes, yams, cassava and eddoes, fresh and salt fish, pickled pork, beef, margarine, cotton seed oil, milk, eggs, vegetables and fruit.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education.

The schools of the Island, though largely assisted and, in the case of elementary schools, entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom five must be members of the Legislature, and three persons with educational experience. The inspectors of schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

There are three grades of schools recognized by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 126 in 1936; second-grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first-grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English universities. The Cambridge Junior Local Certificate Examination is also taken by pupils of both second-grade and first-grade schools, merely as a test of the work of the schools.

In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1936 was 26,113 and the average attendance 19,376, an increase of 676 and of 1,156 respectively as compared with the figures for 1935.

To the number of second-grade schools no additions have been made during the year. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1936 was 470 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 271.

Digitized by Google

The three first-grade schools are Harrison College and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendance at Harrison and Queen's Colleges for 1936 was 274 and 161, respectively. The Lodge School in Saint John's Parish, with an attendance of 140, is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however, at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. This school is attended by a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution.

Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licenses, and Academical ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from 15 to 20. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. Most of the College buildings were destroyed by fire in April, 1926, but they have been restored and were re-opened in June, 1931. Towards the cost of restoration of the College the Legislature voted a sum of £5,000.

The total grant for education purposes, exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls, in 1936 was £59,706, of which £1,400 was the cost of office staff, etc., £10,200 grants to first-grade and second-grade schools, £1,035 for university education and £46,211 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses.

School gardens are cultivated at most of the elementary schools, and at the Local Agricultural Exhibition, held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in 13 schools, while 65 schools provide instruction in other forms of handwork, such as basketry, fibre-work and brush-making. There are cooking classes at five girls' schools, as well as a class for the instruction of teachers in domestic science. Needlework is taught in all girls' schools. Nearly every rural school has a school garden.

Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924 (No. 31), ten apprentices completed their apprenticeship period of five years and the Education Board have issued to them certificates of competence as journeymen tradesmen. The course of training lasts from three years to five years according to the trade chosen.

Digitized by Google

Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is confined to placing them where they can assist men who are engaged in work themselves, and it is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc. Masters and apprentices are paid allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. a year from public funds.

An Education Loan Act has been passed by the Legislature authorizing the raising of a loan of £80,000 to be expended on erecting new school buildings and a training college for teachers, and on enlarging existing buildings, for primary and secondary education. Work on this scheme has been begun.

The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were six male and six female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912, 141 teachers, 79 male and 62 female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, 111 (55 male and 56 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant of £600 from the Government. The question of creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education.

There are 92 boys and 20 girls at the Industrial Schools. The regular elementary school curriculum is adhered to and, in addition, boys are instructed in carpentry, masonry, tailoring, horticulture, the care of animals and general agriculture, and the girls are taught sewing, laundry work, cooking, simple gardening and fancy needlework (optional). There is also a brass band at the boys' school. The usual school games are encouraged. Generally speaking, the boys and girls enjoy excellent health. The staffs of the schools are responsible for the after-care of discharged boys and girls.

Welfare Institutions.

As regards provision for the public welfare, it is the special duty of the Parish Vestries to provide for the aged, sick and poor. All the almshouses are maintained to the standard of cottage hospitals.

There is in existence a Women's Social Welfare League which continues to do good work in the Colony. The Baby Welfare League and the Family Welfare League are subsidiary organizations of the first-named League. The Girls' Industrial Union provides useful training for its members in the following crafts:—cookery, sewing, basket-making, fancy-work, as well as the arts—music, drawing and painting.

A Children's Goodwill League was established in the parish of Saint Michael in the middle of 1935 for the purpose of providing a mid-day meal for poor Elementary School children

Digitized by Google

whose parents are unable to provide adequate nourishment for them. The League is supported by voluntary contributions and is run by a band of voluntary workers. The children receive medical and dental treatment weekly from practitioners whose services are given free of charge.

A similar organization has recently been established in the parish of Christ Church.

There are well-organized branches of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Girls' Friendly Society. The Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides organizations play an important part in the life of the youth of the Colony.

There were 201 Friendly Societies on the Register on the 31st of December, 1936. These Societies provide their members with a Christmas bonus, relief in sickness, and assist in the payment of the funeral expenses of members and their dependants. The number of members in all Societies at the 31st of December, 1936, was 53,318, but a large number of persons belong to more than one Society; the number of dependants of the above members was 121,692; the total contributions paid by members for the year ended the 31st of December, 1936, was £66,280.

The principal outdoor games are cricket, football and tennis. Hockey is played at one or two schools and there is an up-to-date golf club. There is also a chess club. There are three cinematograph theatres.

Ample facilities for sea-bathing exist along the southern and western coasts of the Island as well as on isolated spots along the eastern and northern coasts. There are two aquatic clubs and a Royal yacht club.

The Barbados Rifle Association composed of military and civilian members is allowed to use the Government rifle range (up to 600 yards), and encourages rifle shooting under Bisley and Service conditions. Visiting inter-colonial rifle shooting competitions with Trinidad and British Guiana are also carried out annually.

A Naval Welfare League exists under the auspices of the Women's Social Welfare League. It was formed to entertain the warrant officers, petty officers and men of warships visiting this Island, and fulfils a very useful purpose.

There is a Carnegie Free Library, which is supported from public funds. To this is attached a lecture hall which is occasionally used for musical recitals. Within recent years a juvenile branch has been established at the Public Library and the original building is now proving inadequate for its various functions. The Forum Club is still doing useful work.

The Barbados Choral Society gave their usual programme of Christmas music at the Cathedral, and organ recitals were given

Digitized by Google

during the year. The Police band also rendered its usual programmes at the Hastings Rocks, Queen's Park, the Bay Street Esplanade and the Garrison Savannah.

Radio Distribution (Barbados) Limited distributes, by means of wires, radio programmes daily to about 750 subscribers. The service was inaugurated in May, 1935, and relays chiefly programmes from the Empire Station at Daventry.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The Island has a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in the past has been vested in the hands of 11 Boards of Highway Commissioners.

As stated elsewhere in this Report the Island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied; and this comparatively small area is served by no less than 268¼ miles of main roads and approximately 269¾ miles of cross-roads in more or less constant use. It must be borne in mind that, with a population of over 1,000 to the square mile, the problem of maintaining communications has to be approached rather from the aspect of urban than rural conditions.

Before the advent of self-propelled vehicles Barbados was no doubt justly proud of its roads, but the advent of modern methods of transport, together with insufficiency of funds, led to their rapid deterioration.

The first definite step towards improving and preserving them was the passing by the Legislature, in 1926, of an Act constituting a Central Road Board, with power, under certain prescribed conditions, to assume control of, and reconstruct the arterial roads radiating from Bridgetown. It was estimated that the roads classified as arterial roads could be put in good order at a cost of £165,000, equal to about £1,580 per mile, and that £17,000 should be provided to be spent on other roads in the City of Bridgetown.

In 1927, responsibility for repair of the roads of the parish of Saint Michael, was transferred to the Central Road Board. The work of repairing these roads has now made considerable progress.

In 1936, at the request of the Commissioners of Highways of the parish of Saint Andrew, responsibility for repairs of the roads of that parish was transferred to the Central Road Board.

Beginning operations at the close of the financial year 1926-7, and including the amount voted by the Legislature up to the close of the financial year 1936-7, the sum of £269,913 has been spent on 132 miles of arterial roads, plus £124,353 from Government grants and parochial funds on the roads of Saint Michael's parish.

Digitized by Google

Railways.

A light railway, 24 miles long runs through the southern parishes and along the east coast. This railway which was formerly operated by a company, was acquired by the Government in 1916 and is now conducted by a Board of Management whose funds are derived from the Central Government. Provision made for the working of the railway during the year amounted to £7,500. The actual expenditure was £6,533 and the actual revenue £661.

The passenger service has been suspended since January, 1934, and it has now been decided to close down the whole railway service.

The following comparative statement shows the number of passengers, animals, and quantity of goods carried by the railway during the last three years:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.
Passengers	—	—	—
Live Stock	22	9	12
	Tons.	*Tons.*	*Tons.*
Goods:—			
Sugar, Syrup and Molasses ...	16,309	9,300	1,613*
Canes	4,944	2,264	—
Fuel	37	14	6
Sundries	3,364	229	223
	24,654	11,807	1,842

Omnibuses.

Owing to the configuration of the land and the improved condition of the roads, practically the whole of the Island is accessible to motor vehicles. The city of Bridgetown and its suburbs are supplied with a well-equipped motor omnibus service which is run by the General Motor Omnibus Company, a company whose advent was responsible for the closing down of the Bridgetown Tramways Company a few years ago. Omnibuses leave the terminus in Trafalgar Square every quarter of an hour for the seaside districts of Hastings, Rockley, Saint Lawrence and Fontabelle, as well as the popular inland residential districts. There is a regular daily service from the country districts in the mornings and back in the evenings.

Fares are down to the very low level of 1½d. per section, which in some cases extends over two miles.

Posts.

There is an excellent mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain, Canada, the West Indian Colonies

* Sugar only.

Digitized by Google

and the United States of America by steamers of the undermentioned steamship lines:—

Between Europe and West Indies, and Central America:—

Royal Netherlands Line.
Harrison Line.
Hamburg-Amerika Line.
Compagnie Generale Transatlantique.

Between Canada, Boston and British West India Colonies including British Guiana:—

Canadian National Steamship Company.

Between the United States of America, West Indies and British Guiana:—

Aluminum Line.
Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company.
Booth Line. (South America, West Indies and United States of America.)
Ocean Dominion Line.
American Caribbean Steamship Company.
The McCormick Steamship Company.

The number of ships bringing and taking mails, and other particulars are given below:—

	Steamers.		*Sailing Ships.*		*H.M. Ships.*	
	1935.	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Mails for Barbados ...	535	505	—	8	42	13
Mails from Barbados ...	505	476	42	45	2	1

Telegraphs.

External telegraphic communication is provided by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company and the Western Telegraph Company, Limited, associated Companies of Cables and Wireless, Limited, and the Western Union Telegraph Company.

Telephones.

The Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, controls the telephone system in the Colony with the exception of a private exchange attached to the Police Department. The system extends throughout the Island, the total wire mileage being 6,700. A new automatic service is being installed by the Company.

Wireless Telegraphy.

Wireless communication is maintained by the station of the West India and Panama Telegraphy Company at Bridgetown.

In September, 1934, a licence was granted to a private individual for the establishment of a Radio Distribution Station for a period of five years with the possible extension of the

Digitized by Google

licence at the expiration of that time for a further period of five years. The licence has been transferred to a company styled Radio Distribution (Barbados), Limited.

Shipping.

The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,145, with a net tonnage of 2,033,206, as compared with 1,083 vessels with a tonnage of 2,150,549 during the previous year. In addition four ships of war, one Royal Fleet Auxiliary, and ten yachts visited the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 590, while 538 were discharged.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica and mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal, call at Barbados en route and again on their return journey to England. The steamship lines serving the Colony are:—

The Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from Liverpool and London fortnightly.

The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (Colon Line) runs a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Barbados, Central American ports and (occasionally) Jamaica, calling at Boulogne and Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth and Havre on the return. At certain times during the year these vessels call at Madeira outward bound and at St. Michaels, Azores, or Madeira when homeward bound.

The Hamburg-Amerika Line operates a monthly service sailing from Hamburg via Antwerp, Dover, Cherbourg, Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Puerto Cabello, Curacao, Puerto Colombia, Cartagena, Cristobal to Port Limon. On the return journey these vessels call at Plymouth and Amsterdam.

The Compagnie Generale Transatlantique provides a monthly service from Havre via Plymouth, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Barbados, Trinidad, The Spanish Main and return. This company also furnishes an intercolonial service from Martinique, calling at Saint Lucia, Barbados, Trinidad, the Guianas and return.

The Canadian National Steamship Company operates a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Boston, Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana, touching at the same ports on the north-bound trip. Freight steamers of the same line arrive fortnightly from Canadian and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards this steamship service. Of this sum £5,000 is paid by Barbados.

Digitized by Google

The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provides a fortnightly freight service from Canadian ports. Freighters chartered by the Canadian Transport Company call here once a month from Vancouver B.C.

The McCormick Steamship Corporation operates a monthly freight and passenger service sailing from British Columbia, San Francisco, via the Panama Canal to Porto Rico, thence to Barbados, Trinidad and South American ports.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy) and the American Caribbean Line.

Ships of the Aluminum Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Barbados en route to British and Dutch Guiana.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Three private banks are operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada, and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid-up capital of the first-named bank is £4,975,500, while in the case of the other banks the figures are $35,000,000 and $30,000,000, respectively.

The Government Savings Bank.

In addition there is a Government Savings Bank, in which, at the end of the year under review, there were 15,216 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £787,976. The value of the invested funds was £937,587. The figures for 1935 were, deposits £744,886, invested funds £865,353, and number of depositors 13,578. The number of depositors shows an increase of 1,638 and the total amount to their credit an increase of £43,090. The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent., but since the 30th of April, 1933, a limit of £300 was placed on new deposits in order to avoid a rush consequent on the reduction by the commercial banks of their rates of interest from 3 per cent. to 2 per cent. from the 1st of May, 1933. The Commercial Banks have made a further reduction to 1½ per cent. in their rate of interest from the 1st of December, 1935.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor-in-Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members

Digitized by Google

appointed as follows:—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman *ex-officio*, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board. The net profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st May, 1936, after paying income tax, trade tax, government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan and salaries, etc., amounted to £7,161 3s. 2½d.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1936, was £239,495 as compared with £232,236 at the end of the previous financial year.

The expenditure for the year was £3,106 as compared with £3,087 for the previous year.

Loan and interest due thereon are a first lien and charge against the plantation in respect of which the loan is made.

Currency.

No changes have occurred in currency during the year but it is proposed to issue Government currency notes in the near future. Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation. The banks issue five-dollar notes equivalent to £1 0s. 10d., the exchange value being fixed at $4.80 to the pound sterling.

Weights and Measures.

The standard as to weights and superficial measure is the same as in the United Kingdom, but the standard measure of capacity is less than the standard measure of capacity in the United Kingdom, the local standard being 231 cubic inches to the gallon.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for waterworks and for all Government constructional work, the upkeep of all bridges, wharves, lighthouses and Government buildings, including the military properties in the Garrison.

The roads and railway are each under separate control and are worked apart from the Public Works Department.

Works of importance in process of being carried out by the Department during the year were:—

(1) Work on the improvement of the public market, at an estimated cost of £16,300. The market building was completed during the year 1935-6; the abattoir will be completed during the year 1937-8.

Digitized by Google

(2) Work on the improvement of the water supply, the estimated cost of which is £142,000 is proceeding by the laying of mains, erection of public standpipes, fixing of fire hydrants, supply of water to public elementary schools, and the building of three reservoirs, one of 1¼ million gallons capacity, and two of 1 million gallons capacity. One of these will be completed during the year 1937-8.

(3) Work on the building of a tuberculosis hospital for the Parish of Saint Michael at a cost of £3,472 was commenced. This will be completed during the year 1937-8.

The total number of free public standposts in use in the Colony as at the 31st March, 1937, was 607.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Superior Courts of the Island are presided over by a Chief Justice. There is an Assistant Court of Appeal, consisting of two Judges, which has jurisdiction both as a Court of first instance and as a Court of review. In its original jurisdiction this Court determines suits between £20 and £50 in amount in cases arising out of contract, and between £10 and £50 in cases arising out of tort, and suits in equity not exceeding £500 in value. In its appellate jurisdiction, the Court reviews the decisions of the several Police Magistrates and of the Judges of the Petty Debt Courts. An appeal lies from the decisions of the Assistant Court of Appeal to the Court of Error, over which the Chief Justice presides.

There are six Police Magistrates, four of whom in the rural districts are also Judges of the Petty Debt Courts of those districts; while for the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown there is a separate Judge. The jurisdiction of the Petty Debt Court is limited to £20 in cases of contract and £10 in cases of tort.

The Juvenile Offenders Act, 1932 (No. 22), which came into force on the 1st September, 1932, establishes Courts for dealing with juvenile offenders.

The cost of maintaining legal departments during the year was £13,434.

Under the authority of Act No. 6 of 1929, Police Magistrates are authorized to allow time for the payment of fines or to allow payment of fines by instalments. Except in special cases, as for instance, those against seamen in transit, the general practice is to allow time for the payment of fines.

Digitized by Google

Police.

The Police Force is composed of a Commissioner, a Deputy Commissioner, two Superintendents (one of whom is also Assistant Superintendent of Fire Brigade) and 466 non-Commissioned officers and men. Of these, one Sergeant-Major and 43 men including four supernumeraries form the Harbour Police and carry out regular harbour duties.

A Band consisting of 22 non-commissioned officers and men and five Cadets under the direction of a Bandmaster is attached to the Force.

The Commissioner is Commandant of the Local Forces and is also Superintendent of the Fire Brigade. The Fire Brigade consists of a Foreman and 24 non-commissioned officers and men.

Prisons.

Glendairy Prison, in the parish of Saint Michael, is the only prison in the Colony and has accommodation for 275 males and 128 females. Instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, baking and other crafts. The estimated value of work done in the carpenter's shop during 1936 for Government departments, schools, etc., was £135. The bakery supplied approximately 31 tons of bread to the mental and leper hospitals during the same period. Clothes-washing and cooking are done by the female prisoners.

Convicted prisoners are classified into stars (i.e., those in for the first time or whose previous sentences were for trivial offences and whose character is otherwise good) and ordinaries (i.e., those not placed in the star class). Each class is worked and kept apart from the other as far as is practicable.

The Medical Officer attends the prison daily, examining and prescribing for the sick when necessary; his orders are carefully carried out by male and female hospital attendants on the staff. The health of all the prisoners during 1936 was good.

The following is a comparative statement for the last three years:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.
Total number of persons committed to prison	1,053	1,124	962
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	37	28	23
Daily average in prison (males)	138	136	130
Daily average in prison (females)	24	29	19
Police Court convictions	9,491	9,931	9,912
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny	344	345	206
Convictions by Superior Court	65	63	52

Digitized by Google

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Acts.

The Legislative Session 1937-8 opened on the 26th January, 1937, the previous Session having ended on the 9th December, 1936. The following is a list of the most important Acts passed during the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937:—

1936.

No. 20. An Act to transfer to the Central Road Board the duties and powers of the Commissioners of Highways of the parish of Saint Andrew.

No. 31. An Act to provide for the appointment of a Public Trustee and to amend the law relating to the administration of Trusts.

Nos. 32 and 41. An Act to amend the Electric Light and Power Act, and an Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Governor-in-Executive Committee in favour of the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation Limited. These two enactments provide for the extension of the supply of electricity throughout the Island.

No. 34. An Act to provide for the inspection and control of electric works and for other purposes in connection therewith.

No. 39. An Act to consolidate the law relating to the importation, exportation, manufacture, sale and use of dangerous drugs.

Nos. 42 and 56. Two Acts amending the Customs Tariff with a view to affording protection to articles of British manufacture imported in connexion with the celebration of His Majesty's Coronation.

No. 43. An Act to amend the Volunteer Act; this Act provides for the appointment of a non-commissioned officer of the Regular Forces to be instructor to the local Forces and makes it possible for that officer and for the staff officer of the local Forces to visit the Windward and Leeward Islands on duty, if required.

No. 44. An Act to amend the Poor Relief Act and Public Health (Amendment) Act; this Act makes a change in the terms of appointment of the Chief Medical Officer and of the Sanitation Officer, and gives them more extensive powers.

No. 45. An Act to amend the Judicial Establishment Act; this Act provides for the appointment of a separate Judge to the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown, and relieves the Registrar of judicial functions in the Assistant Court of Appeal.

No. 47. An Act to amend the Education Loan Act; this Act appropriates for repairs and alterations at Harrison College and the Lodge School a part of the money authorized to be raised by way of loan under the principal Act.

Nos. 49 and 51. An Act to amend the Barbados General Hospital Act, and an Act to amend the Barbados General Hospital (Amendment) Act. These two enactments abolish the Court of Trustees and Directors of the Hospital and the statutory committees of that Body, and provide the method whereby the new Hospital Board is to be nominated. The medical and surgical staff has been increased, and provision is made for the payment into the Public Treasury of fees received by the Institution.

No. 55. An Act to establish a bank for the granting of loans to peasant owners.

No. 61. An Act to provide for the amelioration of housing conditions in the City of Bridgetown and its immediate neighbourhood.

No. 68. An Act to amend the Pension Act and the Pension (Amendment) Act. The effects of this Act are, firstly, to enable a public officer at his option to receive on retirement a gratuity and reduced pension in

Digitized by Google

lieu of his ordinary pension, and, secondly, to authorize the payment of a gratuity to the personal representatives of a public officer who dies while in the service of the Crown after having served for at least five years.

No. 72. An Act to amend the Education Act; this Act alters the constitution of the Education Board, revises the salaries of the Inspector and Assistant Inspector of Schools, and makes provision for the appointment of a Junior Assistant Inspector.

No. 62. An Act to regulate the production, marketing and export of Barbados fancy molasses. Under this Act a Board is appointed, charged with the duty of making recommendations as occasion demands, for the attainment of the purpose contemplated. This enactment takes the place of Act No. 12 of 1936, which expired on the 31st October, 1936, and is aimed at securing greater elasticity of administration than existed under the earlier enactment. This Act is itself at present of a temporary character.

1937.

No. 1. An Act to amend the Cinematograph (British Films Act). This Act alters the quota of British Films to be shown in this Colony.

No. 3. An Act to provide for the appointment of a Deputy Speaker (of the House of Assembly).

Subsidiary Legislation.

Of the subsidiary legislation passed during the year, the following is considered to be of importance:—

Proclamations:

1. Appointing a day of supplication to Almighty God for deliverance from storm and other calamities.
2. Fixing date of operation of Dangerous Drugs Act, 1936.
3. Rescinding the application of sanctions against Italy.
4. Prohibiting exportation of warlike stores to Spain.

Orders:

1. Textiles Quotas Order, 1936.
2. Cotton Close Season Order, 1937.

Regulations:

1. Colonial Police and Fire Brigades Long Service Medal Regulations, 1936.
2. Tariff Regulations, 1936.
3. Textiles Quotas Regulations, 1936.
4. The Barbados Fancy Molasses Production and Exportation Regulations, 1937.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1932-3	457,843	425,875
1933-4	510,270	490,909
1934-5	479,960	414,109
1935-6	530,644	463,147
1936-7	483,142	460,869

Digitized by Google

Included in the figures are several items of capital expenditure which it is proposed in due course to transfer to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve fund set out hereunder, on the 31st of March, 1937, was £208,048.

Special Funds.

	£	s.	d.
Public Buildings Insurance Fund	73,937	2	7
Water Boat Renewal Fund	16,195	5	6
Red Cross Fund	971	9	10
Public Officers Security Fund	12,543	0	11
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	40,994	13	6
Reparation Payments Fund	4,604	16	0
	£249,246	8	4

Revenue.

The Revenue for 1936-7 shows a decrease of £45,502 under that of the previous year, the principal head showing a decrease being " Reimbursements in Aid " £50,495. The decrease under all heads was £68,144, while the increase totalled £20,643.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1936-7 was £460,869, a decrease of £2,278 as compared with the previous year. The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the Heads " Police ", " Education ", " Medical ", " Public Works ", " Charges of Debt " and " The Central Road Board ". The expenditure under these heads was as follows:—

	£	*Compared with* 1935-6. £
Police	50,047	an increase of 1,114
Education	58,709	an increase of 1,672
Medical	48,759	an increase of 6,134
Public Works	40,731	an increase of 3,451
Charges of Debt	16,295	an increase of 2,024
Central Road Board	24,774	a decrease of 2,166
	£239,315	

The total expenditure on these six departments, £239,315 represents 51 per cent. of the total administration expenses.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the 31st March, 1937, was £442,220, the Sinking Fund on that date being £55,060, as compared with £423,420 and £50,128 respectively in 1936. The loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March, 1937, were as follows:—

Digitized by Google

Name of Loan.	*Amount of Loan.* £ s. d.	*Amount outstanding.* £ s. d.	*Sinking Fund.* £ s. d.	*Date Redeemable.*	
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916.	37,000 0 0	37,000 0 0	14,013 14 1	£11,000. £6,000. £20,000.	1961. 1963. 1964.
Public Loan Act, 1928	90,000 0 0	90,000 0 0	6,099 16 7	£25,000. £65,000.	1941–78. 1941–78.
General Local Loan Act, 1933 (No. 25) and Redemption Acts, 1933 Nos. 26 and 46).	140,920 0 0	140,920 0 0	33,805 0 7		1944–64.
Water Works Loan Act, 1935	155,500 0 0	155,500 0	—		1961.
Education Loan Act, 1935–63	18,800 0 0	18,800 0 0	—		1956–66.
	£442,220 0 0	442,220 0 0	53,918 11 3		

Digitized by Google

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The Island was visited by a smaller number of His Majesty's ships in 1936 than has been usual in recent years. One cruiser and two sloops of the America and West Indies Squadron visited the Colony during the year, while five foreign men-of-war were seen in Carlisle Bay during the month of December, namely a destroyer and a submarine of the United States' Navy, a French cruiser, a German battleship and a Swedish cruiser. The Cadet Training Cruiser, H.M.S. *Frobisher*, made its usual annual visit in January and February, 1937. During the spring of 1937 the ships of the America and West Indies Squadron and two destroyers of the Canadian Navy assembled at the Port and remained during the period from the 9th to the 22nd March, 1937. The Canadian destroyers returned with two others on 24th March, and remained for seven days.

The Legislature has agreed to a proposal that the permanent Memorial which is to commemorate in Barbados the Silver Jubilee of His late Majesty King George V should take the form of a maternity ward and ante-natal clinic at the General Hospital. The work of erecting the Memorial has not yet commenced. There has been established in the Parish of Saint Philip a Memorial to His late Majesty King George V in the form of a playfield and park which was opened by the Governor on Empire Day, 1936. This playfield is not supported from public funds but is due entirely to private enterprize.

A suitable site for the establishment of a landing-ground for aeroplanes in Barbados has been selected on lands of Seawell plantation in the Parish of Christ Church, and negotiations for the purchase of this plantation are under way.

An enquiry in relation to the establishment of an old age pension scheme was undertaken during the year and the recommendations of the committee which was appointed to undertake the enquiry have been adopted with slight modifications. Legislation to bring the scheme into operation is now being prepared.

During the year a committee was also appointed to examine the question of nutrition in Barbados in relation to public health and in its bearings on the agricultural, veterinary, educational and general policy of the Government. The committee has submitted its report and preliminary enquiries are now being made with a view to the introduction of certain of its recommendations. Under the provisions of the Bridgetown Housing Act, 1936 (No. 61) a Housing Board has been established with power to initiate a rehousing programme the details of which are now being prepared.

The Employment Agency which was established in 1934 is still in operation. During the three years that this Agency has been in existence 4,109 persons have been registered at different times as requiring employment. The Agency has helped to provide the supply of labour required for various schemes towards which assistance has been granted from the Colonial Development Fund and for the work of erection and

Digitized by Google

enlargement of schools under the Education Loan Acts. It has kept registered applicants in touch with prospective employers and up to the 31st March, 1937, it has been able to assist 998 persons to obtain employment.

The message announcing the intention of His Majesty King Edward VIII to renounce the Throne was received after the Legislative Session 1935-6 had come to an end. It was delivered at a meeting which was held in the Legislative Council Chamber and attended by the members of Executive Council, the Heads of Departments, and those persons who had served as Members of the Legislature during the year.

The ceremony of proclaiming His Majesty King George VI took place at 11 a.m. in Trafalgar Square on Saturday, 12th December, 1936. The Proclamation was read by the Sergeant-at-Arms in the presence of His Excellency the Governor and the other signatories of the Proclamation, and of those who served as members of the Legislature during the last Session, and also of Government officials and a large gathering of the public.

APPENDIX.

Bibliography.

Publications relating to Barbados:—

The Cavaliers and Roundheads of Barbados, 1650-1652. Tells of the early life of this old English Colony, and describes a but little known episode of the Great Civil War. By N. Darnell Davis, 1883. (Out of print.)

About Barbados, by Reverend J. Y. Edghill, 1890. (Out of print.)

A History of Barbados, 1625-1685, by Vincent T. Harlow, 1926. Oxford; at the Clarendon Press.

The History of Barbados from the First Discovery of the Island in the year 1605 till the Accession of Lord Seaforth, 1801, by John Poyer, 1808. (Out of print.)

The History of Barbados, comprising a geographical and statistical description of the Island, a sketch of the historical events since the settlement, and an account of its geology and natural productions. By Sir Robert H. Schomburgk, 1848. (Out of print.)

The Barbados Handbook, by E. G. Sinckler, London, Duckworth and Company, 1914. (Out of print.)

History and Guide to Barbados and the Caribbee Islands, by James H. Stark, 1903.

The Geology of Barbados, by Professor J. B. Harrison and A. J. Jukes-Browne, 1890. (Out of print.)

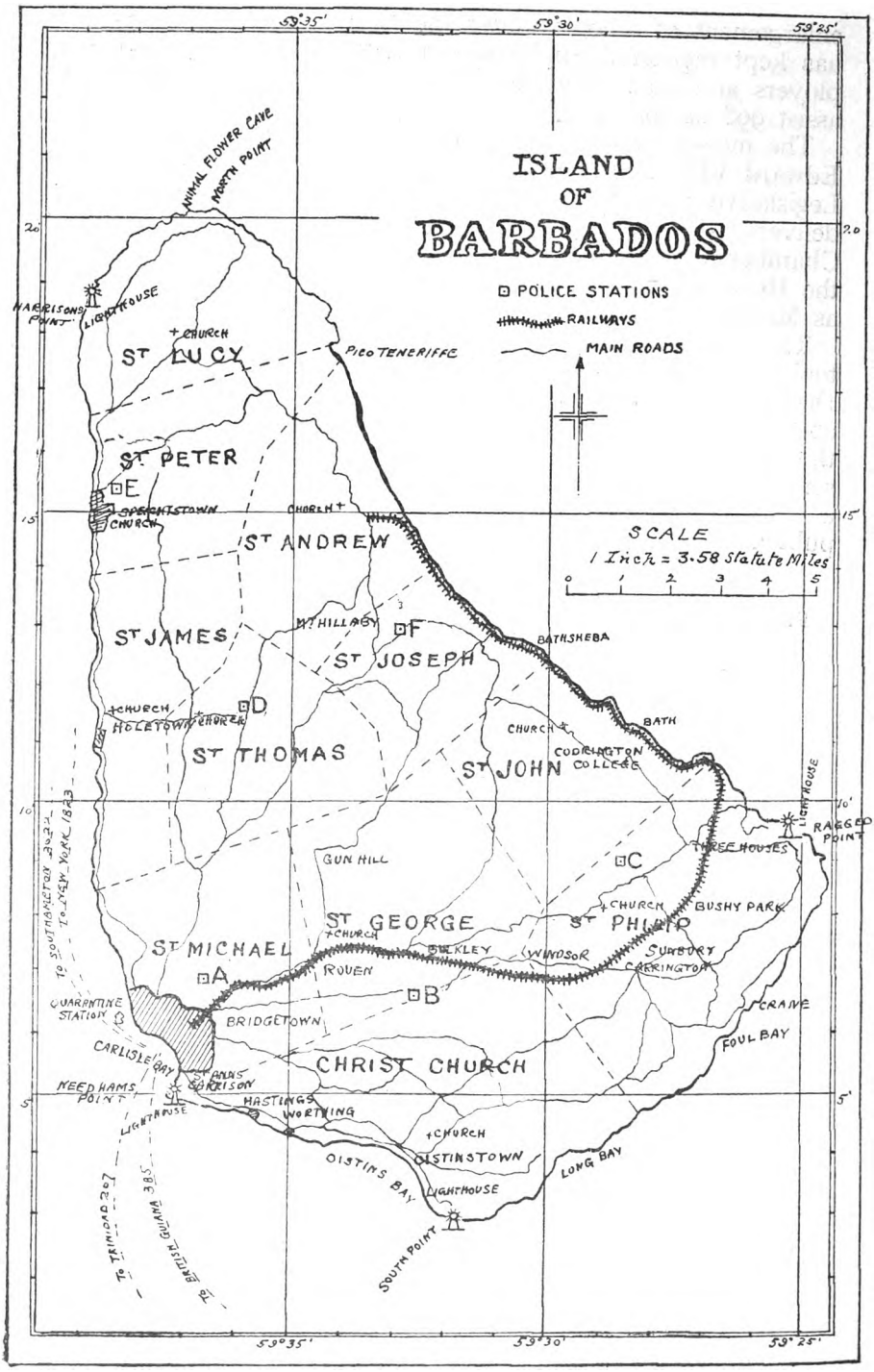
The Barbados Year Book, 1935 (Silver Jubilee Number), by G. F. Sharp, with a Who's Who by C. A. L. Gale. The Advocate Press, Barbados.

Garden Book of Barbados, by the Department of Science and Agriculture. The Advocate Press, Barbados.

The Annual Blue Book and the Annual Reports of the several Government Departments may be obtained from the Colonial Secretary's Office, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, London, S.W.1, at varying prices. The Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of Barbados is obtainable at the Colonial Secretary's Office or from His Majesty's Stationery Office in London.

The booklet *Gem of the Caribbean,* issued by the Publicity Committee, can be obtained from local stationers at one shilling per copy.

Digitized by Google



(46034—48) Wt. 2799—3933 750 12/37 P. St. G. 377/7

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935. [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. 111] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent B[illegible] Street

or through any book[seller]

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

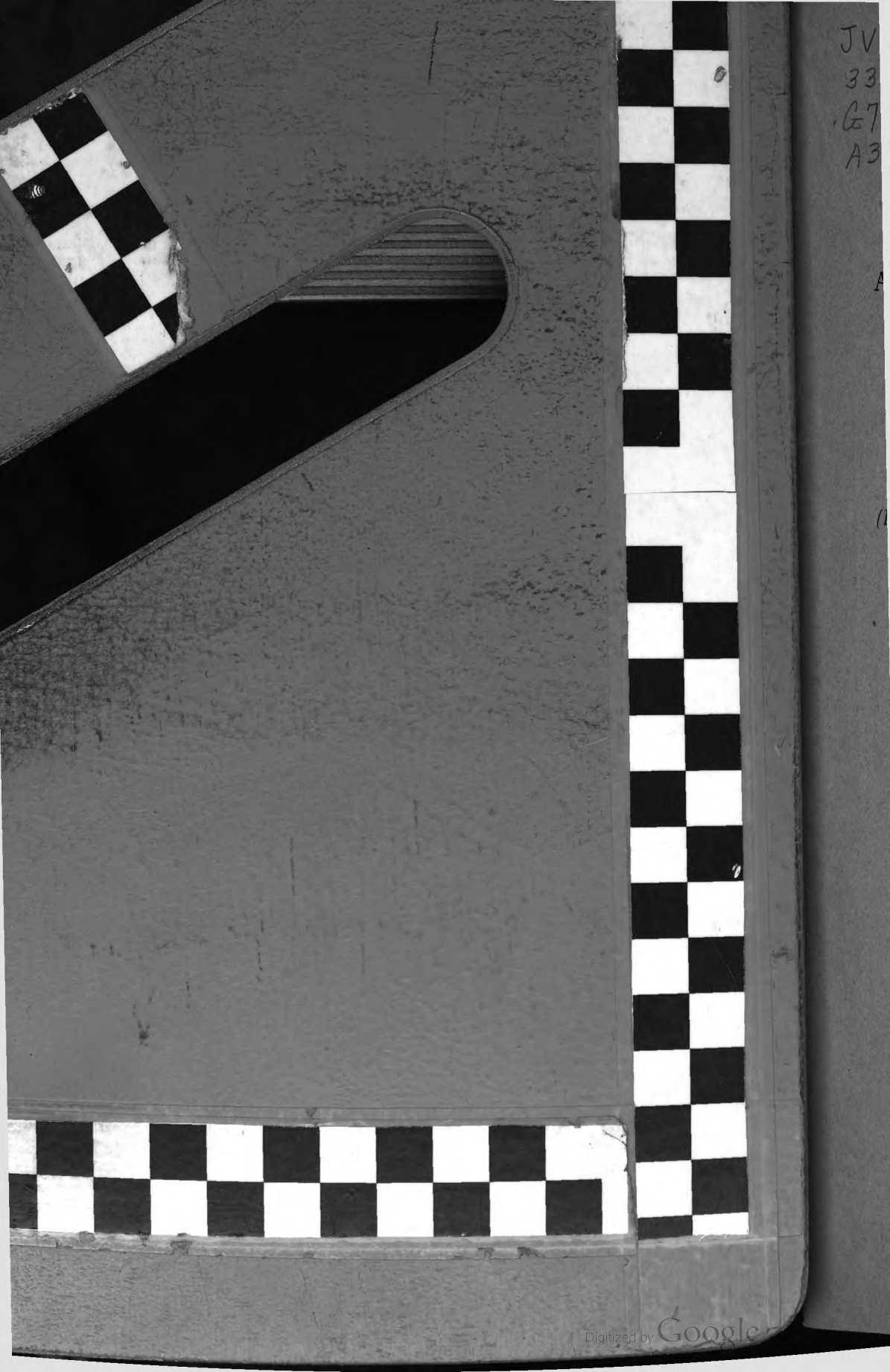
S.O. Code No. 58-1830

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google


JV
33
.G7
A3
Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1829

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

SIERRA LEONE, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1744 and 1757 respectively (Price 2s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937. [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1829

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

SIERRA LEONE, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1744 and 1757 respectively (Price 2s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SIERRA LEONE, 1936

CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
I.	GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY	2
II.	GOVERNMENT	5
III.	POPULATION	11
IV.	HEALTH	14
V.	HOUSING	17
VI.	PRODUCTION	18
VII.	COMMERCE	21
VIII.	WAGES AND COST OF LIVING	24
IX.	EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS	25
X.	COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT	26
XI.	BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	33
XII.	PUBLIC WORKS	34
XIII.	JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS	35
XIV.	LEGISLATION	39
XV.	PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION	41
XVI.	MISCELLANEOUS	45
	APPENDIX. LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO SIERRA LEONE	
	MAP.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The territory comprising the Colony and Protectorate of Sierra Leone is about the size of Ireland (27,925 square miles) and lies between the 6° 55′ and 10° 00′ parallels of north latitude and the 10° 16′ and 13° 18′ meridians of west longitude. The portions administered strictly as Colony are the Sierra Leone Peninsula, Tasso Island, the Banana Islands, York Island, and the township of Bonthe on Sherbro Island. The total area amounts to some 256 square miles.

Freetown, the capital, is situated at the northern extremity of the Peninsula on a fine natural harbour which affords good anchorages close to the shore for the largest ships. The greater portion of the Peninsula is mountainous and well wooded, the conical peaks, of which the highest is Picket Hill (2,912 feet), being visible for great distances at certain seasons of the year.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Southern
1-20-38
15-205

The Protectorate (27,669 square miles) is well watered by a network of rivers and streams, the general direction of flow being from north-east to south-west. Most of the rivers have wide estuaries; and, although none of them is navigable for ocean-going steamers, several of them provide useful waterways for lesser craft, particularly during the wet season.

If the mountainous peninsula be excepted, the Colony and Protectorate as a whole may be described generally as being flat and low-lying in the south and west and broken and elevated in the north and east, where altitudes of over 6,000 feet have been recorded in the Loma and Tingi mountains. The nature of the vegetation varies considerably. South of the 8° 30′ parallel of north latitude dense bush country (originally tropical forest) is as a rule encountered; but this gives place as one travels northwards to more open or " orchard bush " country.

Climate.

The seasons may be divided into wet and dry, the former commencing in May and lasting until October. The rains are as a rule ushered in during the latter part of March and April by a series of tornadoes. Similar phenomena, though as a rule of a less violent nature, are experienced towards the end of the wet season. The dry north-easterly " Harmattan " wind usually blows at intervals during the December—February period, visibility being thereby greatly restricted owing to the fine dust which it is believed the Harmattan carries down with it from the Sahara. During this period hot days and cool nights are the rule.

The shade temperature at Freetown varies during the year from about 65° to 95° Fahrenheit. The average minimum and maximum may be placed at 74° and 87° respectively.

The average annual rainfall at Freetown over a forty-year period amounted to 152 inches. This figure is based on observations made at Tower Hill at a point some 200 feet above sea-level. July and August are as a rule the wettest months.

History.

Sierra Leone, which has been known to voyagers and historians for many centuries, first became a British settlement in the latter part of the eighteenth century. The settlement was established, at the instance of a Society for the Abolition of Slavery from which sprang the Sierra Leone Company, in order to make provision for a large number of slaves who had found their way to England after the American War of 1782, and also for such slaves as might be recaptured by British ships operating against the slavers. A strip of land was acquired on the north of the Sierra Leone Peninsula, and on this site the

Digitized by Google

first colonists were landed in May, 1787. These were augmented in 1792 by a large party of Africans (freed slaves who had fought for the English in the American War of Independence) from Nova Scotia. Later, in 1800, about 550 Maroons—originally slaves who fled from their masters in Jamaica and on surrender were conveyed to Nova Scotia—were brought to Sierra Leone, and allotted lands. Similar treatment was subsequently accorded to the "Liberated Africans" who were captured slaves brought in by His Majesty's ships.

For the first few years of its existence the Colony suffered many hardships and privations through famine and disease, and was attacked three times from land by the Temnes and once from the sea by a French squadron.

On 1st January, 1808, the settlement became a Crown Colony.

Chiefly owing to slave-dealing by native chiefs and European adventurers in the neighbourhood of Freetown, the English settlement soon found it necessary to intervene in the affairs of the hinterland, and from time to time various treaties were made with the surrounding chiefs by which certain lands were ceded to the Crown. By this means the Crown Colony was gradually extended. Several missions were also sent to more distant chiefdoms with the view to opening up trade with the interior; these were often helpful in settling inter-tribal wars, and led to an extension of British influence over the territory now embraced in the Sierra Leone Protectorate.

From 1822 to 1827 the Governors of Sierra Leone held the title of Governor-in-Chief of the West African Settlements, and in this capacity were required to visit the Gold Coast and the Gambia. It was within this period, on 21st January, 1824, that Governor Charles MacCarthy was killed in a battle against the Ashantis at Assamako in the Gold Coast. In 1827 the Gold Coast Settlements were alienated and handed over to the African Company of Merchants, but owing to reports as to connivance with the slave trade, were again placed under the Sierra Leone Government in 1843. Further changes were made in 1850 when the British territories in the Gold Coast were made a separate Government for a second time, but in 1866 the Imperial Government constituted once more what was termed the Government of the West African Settlements, comprising Sierra Leone, the Gambia, the Gold Coast, and Lagos, and the Governor of Sierra Leone became the Governor-in-Chief. Eventually a new Charter, dated 24th July, 1874, effected the separation which exists at the present time.

In 1895 an agreement for the demarcation of the northern boundary between the British and French spheres of influence and interests was ratified, and in 1896 the hinterland of Sierra Leone was declared a Protectorate and divided into administrative districts.

Digitized by Google

The year 1898 was marked by an insurrection in the Protectorate as the result of the imposition of a house tax. The resulting military operations were brought to a successful conclusion early in the following year, and since that date the Protectorate has remained peaceful.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Constitution.

The Dependency of Sierra Leone consists of two parts, of which one is Colony and the other Protectorate.

The Colony of Sierra Leone is what is generally, if not very accurately, spoken of as a Crown Colony as opposed to a self-governing Colony. Its constitution is to be found in the following Prerogative Instruments:—

(1) Letters Patent passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, dated the 28th day of January, 1924.

(2) Instructions passed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet and dated the 28th day of January, 1924, as amended by additional Instructions dated the 19th day of January, 1929.

(3) The Order of the King in Council, entitled the Sierra Leone (Legislative Council) Order in Council, dated the 16th day of January, 1924, as amended by Orders of the King in Council dated respectively the 27th day of June, 1927, the 21st day of December, 1928, and the 29th day of June, 1931.

So far as the Protectorate of Sierra Leone is concerned, the Constitutional Instrument under which it is governed is the Order of the King in Council, entitled the Sierra Leone Protectorate Order in Council, 1924, dated 16th January, 1924, passed by virtue of the powers conferred by the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890.

The Government of both the Colony and Protectorate is administered by a Governor and Commander-in-Chief (who in Sierra Leone is also a Vice-Admiral) appointed by Commission under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet.

The Executive Council ordinarily consists of five members, namely, the officers performing for the time being the duties of the Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, Colonial Treasurer, the Director of Medical Services, and the Commissioner of the Northern Province of the Protectorate.

The Legislative Council consists—

(1) of the Governor as President;

(2) of official members—viz., the members of the Executive Council, the Commissioner of the Southern Province of the Protectorate, the Comptroller of Customs, the Director of Public Works, the Director of Education, the General Manager of the Railway, and the Director of Agriculture;

Digitized by Google

(3) of nominated unofficial members, of whom there may not be more than seven. Of these nominated members three must be Paramount Chiefs of the Protectorate. Of the remaining four, one represents general European interests in the community; the other European nominated member is appointed after consultation with the Chamber of Commerce. The remaining two nominated members represent African interests;

(4) of three elected members, of whom two are elected by the Urban and one by the Rural Electorate District of the Colony.

Unofficial members hold their seats for five years, and nominated unofficial members are eligible to be re-appointed for a further term not exceeding five years.

There is power vested in the Governor to appoint persons to be extraordinary members upon any special occasion and to make provisional appointments on a vacancy in the seat of a nominated unofficial member.

The Governor presides over the Legislative Council, and questions therein are decided by a majority of votes, the Governor having an original vote as well as a casting vote.

It should be noted that the Legislative Council of Sierra Leone (like those of the Colonies of the Gambia and Kenya) has the power of legislating for the Protectorate as well as for the Colony, and that, in spite of the powers vested in the Governor and Legislative Council, the Letters Patent and the Sierra Leone Order in Council, 1924, expressly reserve to the Crown the power of legislating by Order in Council for the Colony and Protectorate, respectively.

Political Administration.

For administrative purposes Sierra Leone is commonly, though as will be seen later, not accurately, spoken of as being divided into hard-and-fast divisions—namely, Colony and Protectorate.

The Colony is British territory acquired by purchase or concession under treaties entered into from time to time with native Chiefs and tribal authorities, ranging in date from 1807, when the first valid cession of the Peninsula was made, till 1872, when a portion of Koya or Quiah, previously ceded to the Crown, was re-ceded to the Chiefs and people.

Colony.

For administrative purposes the Colony may in fact be divided into two parts—

(1) Colony administered as such.

(2) Colony administered in every respect as Protectorate.

Digitized by Google

The part of the Colony administered as such consists virtually of the whole of the Peninsula of Sierra Leone, with the adjacent Tasso and Banana Islands, of the town of Bonthe on Sherbro Island, of the Turtle Islands and York Island. It is composed within three Districts—

(1) The Police District of Freetown.

(2) The Headquarters Judicial District.

(3) The Sherbro Judicial District.

Police District of Freetown.—The Police District of Freetown consists of the north-western portion of the Peninsula, and it is bounded on the south and south-west by the Adonkia Creek, and a line drawn from its source to a point between Allen Town and Grafton and from thence along Hastings Creek to the Rokell River.

This District which is defined by Section 52 (*a*) of the Magistrates' Courts Ordinance, 1924, contains, in addition to the city of Freetown, the villages of Kissy, Wilberforce, Wellington, Gloucester, Leicester, Regent, Bathurst, Charlotte, Lumley, and other smaller hamlets. Before 1931 the whole Police District of Freetown was under the general supervision of the Commissioner of Police, and no Political Officer visited the outlying villages. These villages have now been placed under the Commissioner of the Headquarters Judicial District for administrative (though not judicial) purposes.

Freetown Municipality.—The city of Freetown itself is governed by the " City Council of Freetown " pursuant to and in accordance with the Freetown Municipality Ordinance, 1927; but various so-called Tribal Headmen in Freetown have certain administrative powers over the natives of the aboriginal tribes who reside in the capital.

Headquarters Judicial District.—The Headquarters Judicial District, which is defined by Section 52 (*b*) of the Magistrates' Courts Ordinance, 1924, consists, roughly speaking, of the remainder of the Sierra Leone peninsula, together with the Banana Islands.

The Headquarters Judicial District is in charge of a District Commissioner with his headquarters at Waterloo, the largest town in the District. Unlike the Commissioner of all the other Districts, the Commissioner of the Headquarters District is subordinate to no Provincial Commissioner and corresponds direct with the Colonial Secretary.

For purposes of house-tax collection and expenditure, the Freetown Police District and the Headquarters District are grouped together under one Advisory Board, constituted on 1st January, 1924.

Digitized by Google

Sherbro Judicial District.—The Bonthe District consists of Sherbro Island, Turtle Islands, York Island, and the four following chiefdoms on the mainland, viz., Timdale, Bendu, Cha, and Nongoba Bullom, all of which were ceded to the British Crown by various treaties at different times. It is administered by a District Commissioner who is subordinate to the Commissioner of the Southern Province of the Protectorate, and it should be noted, as will be seen later, that whereas the whole of the Police District of Freetown and the Headquarters Judicial District are administered as Colony, by far the greater part of this District is administered as Protectorate.

The town of Bonthe on Sherbro Island and York Island are the constituents of the Port of Sherbro, by far the most important commercial and maritime centre in Sierra Leone after Freetown itself. The population of these two places consists largely of natives of the Colony and of Europeans engaged in commerce. The mode of administering Bonthe, York Island, and the small islands adjacent thereto, which together constitute what is called the Sherbro Judicial District, is on this account precisely similar to that employed in the Headquarters Judicial District of the Colony.

Outside the town of Bonthe, however, the whole of Sherbro Island has a largely aboriginal native population, divided into two chiefdoms—namely, Dema and Sittia—and the four mainland chiefdoms have a similar native population.

Administration on purely Colony lines being impracticable, the whole of the Bonthe District outside the narrow limits of the Sherbro Judicial District is, along with certain other parts of the Colony, administered exactly as is the Protectorate.

Parts of the Colony treated as Protectorate.—Those parts of the Colony which are, for all administrative purposes, treated as Protectorate, consist, in the first place, of a strip of coast line of varying width acquired at different periods before the proclamation of the Protectorate for purposes of Customs control.

Secondly, there is one other area which is in fact Colony administered as Protectorate; this is the Baki Loko territory, acquired by a treaty of 1825.

PROTECTORATE.

The hinterland of Sierra Leone, an area of some 26,000 square miles, was declared a British Protectorate in 1896, and the necessary legislative steps were taken to provide for its administration.

For some years it was, for political purposes, divided into a varying number of Districts and in 1919 it consisted of the following five Districts, viz., Koinadugu, Karene, Railway,

Digitized by Google

Ronietta and Northern Sherbro. Each District was controlled by a District Commissioner, holding direct communication with the Secretariat in Freetown, aided by a small staff of Assistant District Commissioners, to each of whom he allocated such duties or such geographical spheres of activity as he thought fit. This division of the Protectorate was found, however, to be defective in practice, as it led to much duplication of work, and to the lack of both uniformity and continuity of policy. In order, therefore, to remedy these defects, as well as to bring the political division of the country into closer accord with the racial distribution of its inhabitants, the Protectorate was, in 1920, divided into three provinces, designated respectively the Northern, containing more or less the area formerly known as the Karene and Koinadugu Districts; the Central, taking in the Railway District and part of the Ronietta District; and the Southern, being composed of the Northern Sherbro District and parts of the Ronietta and Railway Districts. Each Province was placed in the charge of a Provincial Commissioner. The Provinces were divided into Districts of varying areas, each of which was controlled by a District Commissioner responsible, in his administrative capacity, to the Commissioner of the Province in which his District lay.

By the Protectorate (Administrative Divisions) Order in Council, 1930, which came into force on 1st January, 1931, those three Provinces were reduced to two, namely the Northern and Southern Provinces; and the Order in Council under reference sets out:—

(*a*) the respective boundaries of these two Provinces;

(*b*) the Districts of which they consist; and

(*c*) the native chiefdoms comprised in each of those Districts.

Each district is sub-divided into chiefdoms, owned and administered by their respective tribal authorities, i.e., their Paramount Chiefs in association with the elders or principal men of the respective chiefdoms.

The division of the Protectorate into Provinces and of the Provinces into Districts is arbitrary, and has been dictated by considerations of adminstrative efficiency, due regard being paid to the necessity for including in one District, where possible, chiefdoms comprising one tribe or section of a tribe. The boundaries of the chiefdoms, however, are fixed by prehistoric tradition and native custom, and although disputes constantly arise as to sections of inter-chiefdom boundaries (indeed the settlement of boundary disputes forms an important part of the work of a Political Officer), the Government does not interfere with chiefdom boundaries unless invited to do so. The chiefdoms vary in size from the considerable area of Tambaka

Digitized by Google

Yobanji in the Kambia District to the smallness of the Yabai Krim in the Pujehun District, i.e. from approximately 500 square miles to about 20 square miles.

Each chiefdom is entirely separate and independent, and although there is natural cohesion between chiefdoms composed of the same tribe and situated in the same locality, no Paramount Chief can claim pre-eminence over other Paramount Chiefs of the same tribe, either by reason of the area of his chiefdom, the wealth of his people, or the antiquity of his house. At any meeting of the Paramount Chiefs of a District, pride of place would naturally be given to those whom age or, more especially length of reign entitled to that honour at the hands of their brother Chiefs, but the conferring of that mark of respect implies no relationship of superiority and subordination. The several chiefdoms are well defined and have no official inter-relationship whatever, with this exception, that independent and distinterested Paramount Chiefs of the same tribe may be called upon to act as assessors in the settlement of any "palaver" which the Tribal Authority of a chiefdom find themselves unable to settle unaided. They may be invited to act in this capacity either at the instance of a Provincial or District Commissioner, or at that of the Paramount Chief in whose chiefdom the dispute has arisen.

The Tribal Authority of a chiefdom is the sole owner of the land within that chiefdom, and this principle of native law and custom, which is uniform throughout the Protectorate, has been consistently and actively supported by Government.

The Courts of the Paramount Chiefs are dealt with in Chapter XIII.

Functions of Political Officers.—The functions of a Political Officer are three-fold in nature: administrative, judicial, and departmental; but his departmental duties are so wedded to those that are purely administrative that it will be convenient to consider those duties together and separately from those of a judicial nature.

In his administrative capacity the District Commissioner (and, *a fortiori,* the Provincial Commissioner) is the representative of the Colonial Government in that portion of the Protectorate committed to his administrative charge. He is the guide, philosopher, and friend to the Paramount Chiefs, the Tribal Authority and the people. He is at once the support of the recognized native authority, the upholder of its prestige, and the protector of the poor against oppression by their rulers. He is the mouthpiece of the Government, and the interpreter and demonstrator of its policy.

A District Commissioner's departmental duties in reality form a part of his administrative duties. He is responsible for the collection of Government revenue in his District, by (*a*) house

Digitized by Google

tax, and (*b*) the issue of licences for stores, hawkers, vendors of spirit, fire-arms, etc. He is the propagandist officer who is the coadjutor to the technical officers of the Agricultural and Forestry Departments; he supervises sanitation on behalf of the Health Department; he oversees the general conduct of the post offices and agencies; he keeps a wary eye on the Customs frontiers and seaboards; he controls the management of the gaols; he advises the Education Department and assists in its propaganda; he supervises the laying out and construction of second-class roads, and the erection of native buildings required for official purposes; he facilitates the progress through his District of any officers whose duties require them to travel through it; in short, he has ancillary duties to perform on behalf of practically every Government Department in the Colony.

The judicial duties and powers of a Political Officer are fully dealt with under Chapter XIII, to which reference is invited.

III.—POPULATION.

Colony.—The total population of the Colony according to the census of 1931 was 96,422, the racial distributions being as follows:—

Race.	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*	*Percentage of Total Population.*
African native tribes	36,914	24,869	61,783	64·08
African non-natives—Sierra Leoneans	14,438	18,408	32,846	34·06
Other African non-natives ...	583	346	929	0·96
Asiatics...	309	135	444	0·46
Europeans	308	112	420	0·44
Totals	52,552	43,870	96,422	100·00

Protectorate.—The total population of the Protectorate according to the 1931 census was 1,672,058, of which 796,392 were males and 875,666 were females, and consisted of African native tribes, African non-natives, Asiatics and Europeans.

The total European population of the Protectorate was 231, of which 173 were males and 58 were females. Of this total 142 were British, other Europeans numbering 89, in which were included 34 Americans.

The total Asiatic population of the Protectorate was 772—577 males and 195 females. These included 754 Syrians, 16 Arabs, and 2 Indians.

African non-natives in the Protectorate numbered 3,265, 1,765 being males and 1,500 females. These included Sierra Leoneans for the most part and a few West Indians, Liberians, American Negroes, persons classed at the census as Nigerians, Gold Coasters, and Mulattoes. Of the total shown, Sierra Leoneans numbered 3,046.

Digitized by Google

Nationalities and Tribes.

The following table shows the various nationalities and tribes amongst the African population of the Colony and Protectorate, and the number in each case at the 1931 census.

Nationality or Tribe.	*Colony.*	*Protectorate.*	*Total.*	*Percentage of Total African Population.*
Sierra Leoneans	32,846	3,046	35,892	2·04
Other African non-natives ...	929	219	1,148	0·07
Temne	21,431	472,258	493,689	27·95
Mende	10,258	568,788	579,046	32·78
Limba	6,957	138,714	145,671	8·24
Loko	5,228	57,152	62,380	3·52
Bullom and Sherbro	4,634	139,101	143,735	8·15
Susu	2,391	43,210	45,601	2·58
Mandingo	1,988	14,081	16,069	0·91
Fula	1,330	15,523	16,853	0·96
Kono	604	68,521	69,125	3·92
Gallinas (or Vai)	673	19,865	20,538	1·16
Koranko	157	44,203	44,360	2·52
Kissi	170	34,810	34,980	1·32
Yalunka	73	16,066	16,139	0·92
Krim	41	20,639	20,680	1·18
Gola	—	8,509	8,509	0·50
Gbande	—	1,131	1,131	0·07
Fanti	125	—	125	0·01
Joloff	181	—	181	0·01
Sarakuli	122	—	122	0·01
Kroo	4,481	—	4,481	0·29
Bassa	512	—	512	0·04
Miscellaneous	427	5,219	5,646	0·33
Totals	95,558	1,671,055	1,766,613	—

Geographical Distribution.—The main geographical distribution of the African population was as follows:—

	Freetown.	*Colony other than Freetown.*	*Protectorate.*	*Total.*
Sierra Leoneans	20,970	11,876	3,046	35,892
Other African non-natives ...	784	145	219	1,148
Tribes	32,919	28,864	1,667,790	1,729,573
Total African population ...				1,766,613

Migration.

During the year 1936, 246 Syrians entered and 142 left the Colony by sea. In all there were 2,474 immigrants and 2,106 emigrants. The total numbers of European immigrants and emigrants other than British subjects were 175 and 161 respectively.

Digitized by Google

Births and Deaths.

The figures for births and deaths for the Colony for 1936 are as follows:—

(*a*) Births—

Males.	*Females.*	*Total.*	*Crude Birth-rate.*
1,346	1,191	2,537	24·5

The birth-rate shown is probably too low as registration is not compulsory in every place outside Freetown.

(*b*) Deaths—

Males.	*Females.*	*Total.*	*Crude Death-rate.*
1,397	1,093	2,490	24·0

The figures for the Protectorate as regards (*a*) and (*b*) are unreliable, as registration is not compulsory.

Infantile Mortality.—The following are the figures for infantile mortality for the Colony for 1936:—

Males.	*Females.*	*Total.*	*Rate per 1,000 live-births.*
389	255	584	230

The rate shown of mortality per 1,000 live births is probably too high owing to the cause stated under (*a*) above, namely that many births are not recorded.

The last decennial census (1931) showed the population of the Colony to be 96,422.

The estimated population for Freetown at mid-year 1936 is 62,314, that for the Colony exclusive of Freetown 41,064.

The population of the Protectorate was recorded as 1,672,057 in 1931.

Marriages.

The numbers of marriages as shown by the registers for 1936 are:—

	Freetown.	*Village areas. (Colony).*	*Headquarters District. (Colony).*	*Bonthe (Colony).*	*Protectorate.*	*Total.*
Christian	136	33	13	6	38	226
Civil	1	—	—	—	1	2
Mohammedan ...	26	3	—	—	—	29
Totals ...	163	36	13	6	39	257

Only figures for Christian marriages are available for the Protectorate. There is no registration of marriage by "Native Custom."

Digitized by Google

IV.—HEALTH.

General Health of the Population.

The figures, with the following exceptions, remain substantially the same.

Yaws and chronic rheumatism show an appreciable increase, due no doubt to the facilities offered for treatment. The latter affection is frequently a sequela of the former. Cases of wounds show a considerable increase, due probably to increased mining activities, as indicated in the last report.

The figures quoted refer only to cases treated at Government institutions and do not include Mission dispensaries and hospitals.

A comparative table for 1935 and 1936 is appended.

Disease.	*1935.*	*1936.*
Malaria	7,718	7,942
Yaws	6,539	8,202
Acute Rheumatism	—	2
Chronic Rheumatism	7,642	10,671
Hemiplegia	110	137
Conjunctivitis	903	1,075
Affections of the ear	940	1,149
Haemorrhoids	96	102
Lymphadenitis (bubo non-specific)	620	664
Coryza	1,100	1,146
Acute Bronchitis	6,905	7,342
Chronic Bronchitis	5,301	5,542
Asthma	202	245
Caries, pyorrhoea, etc.	1,627	1,916
Gastritis	440	502
Dyspepsia	3,827	4,420
Diarrhoea and enteritis	1,434	1,716
Ankylostomiasis	172	405
Hernia	924	1,104
Constipation	8,334	9,701
Acute Nephritis	82	105
Schistosomiasis	65	98
Epididymitis	40	70
Orchitis	237	249
Hydrocele	262	380
Abcess	500	774
Scabies	1,296	1,742
Eczema	230	327
Osteitis	274	355
Arthritis	1,624	1,800
Wounds (by cutting or stabbing instruments)	745	1,205
Fracture	218	238
Other external injuries	5,132	4,639
Asthenia	951	895
Syphilis	566	769
Gonorrhoea	2,526	2,755
Avitaminosis	1,311	909

Digitized by Google

Mortality.

The figures for Freetown are fairly accurate, as the Medical Department controls the burial of deceased persons, and it may be said that the majority of deaths from other causes come to be notified in the Registrar's office. As has been stated, outside Freetown the figures are indicative only, as, although facilities exist for registration, the figures are dependent on the co-operation of the population.

Figures for the Protectorate are at present too unreliable for quotation, as the registration is largely optional.

Principal Causes of Deaths—1936.

The causes are as stated below, and are as recorded by the Registrar for Freetown. The total amounts to 1,297, and includes Cline Town.

Causes.	*Freetown (including Cline Town), 1,297.*	
	Number.	*Percentage.*
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	213	16·4
Malaria	152	11·7
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	88	6·8
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	72	5·6
Senility	62	4·5
Valvular disease	43	3·3
Prematurity	36	2·7
Nephritis	36	2·7
Strangulated Hernia	27	2·1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	23	1·7
Convulsions	10	·7
Hemiplegia	9	·7

The number of deaths registered on medical certificate was 382, comprising 29·4 of the deaths registered.

The causes of death for the rest of the Colony are not available, the figures being unreliable owing to the absence of a Medical Officer or Dispenser in the majority of the registration areas.

Provision for Treatment.

Government hospital facilities consist of the Connaught Hospital, Freetown, and the Government Hospital in Bonthe.

A comparison of the number of cases treated at these institutions in 1935 and 1936 is shown below. The figures for the Connaught Hospital remain substantially the same, those for Bonthe Hospital show an appreciable increase both in in-patients and out-patients.

	1935.	*1936.*
Connaught Hospital:—		
In-patients	2,672	2,658
Out-patients—new cases	18,635	18,193
Subsequent attendances	135,094	136,896
Operations	2,246	2,100
Bonthe Hospital:—		
In-patients	371	460
Out-patients—new cases	2,983	3,884
Subsequent attendances	13,670	11,589

Digitized by Google

PROTECTORATE.

Hospitals.—Since the last report a new Protectorate type hospital has been completed at Port Loko. Otherwise the hospitals remain as formerly.

The figures for the Government hospital at Bo show a small decrease in the number of inpatients and an increase in the number of out-patients treated as compared with those for 1935.

The figures for the Government hospital at Makeni show a very marked increase in all three classes of patients.

Protectorate Hospital, Bo, Southern Province :—

	1935.	1936.
In-patients	445	424
Out-patients—new cases	2,962	3,586
Subsequent attendances	18,561	16,328

Protectorate Hospital, Makeni, Northern Province :—

In-patients	241	298
Out-patients—new cases	2,563	4,583
Subsequent attendances	9,951	14,628

Dispensaries.—New Government dispensaries have been inaugurated at Koidu in the Kono district and at Mabonto in the Tonkolili district.

Midwives.—The position remains the same.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—The position remains the same.

	Connaught Hospital and Maternity Centre, Oxford Street.		*Princess Christian Mission Hospital.*	
	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
Ante-natal attendances	5,981	5,510	981	763
Labour cases admitted	554	607	42	23
Health visits	11,985	10,189	3,551	5,001
Infant Welfare clinic attendances ...	12,056	13,120	4,414	3,407

Sanitation.

The occurrence of smallpox shows a very marked decrease in the Colony during the period under consideration.

In the Protectorate a marked diminution is also apparent, though, in the Northern Province, Karene, and, in the Southern Province, Kailahun and Kenema, there was an increase in the incidence of the disease, but not of a significant nature.

Digitized by Google

The table below gives the figures for the Colony and Protectorate during 1936.

Area.	*Number of cases discovered.*	*Number of Deaths.*	*Number of Vaccinations.*
Colony Districts :—			
Freetown	29	8	8,448
Headquarters Judicial ...	26	1	1,501
Sherbro	4	—	3,114
Protectorate Districts :—			
Northern Province—			
Port Loko	5	—	3,033
Karene	57	13	806
Bombali	39	—	1,736
Tonkolili	6	—	—
Koinadugu...	—	—	191
Southern Province—			
Kailahun	57	6	1,951
Kenema	15	1	1,766
Bo	14	—	3,657
Moyamba	103	16	2,115
Pujehun	9	1	1,764
Bonthe	27	5	—
	391	51	30,082

Of the twenty-nine cases shown above against Freetown, twelve were imported.

Sanitation in general maintains a steady progress.

V.—HOUSING.

Freetown and Colony.

Colony.—The majority of the wage-earning population of Freetown and the larger towns of the Colony occupy timber-framed houses with concrete or stone and mortar dwarf walls roofed with corrugated iron sheets or palm-tile thatch. The floors are either of concrete or of native timber boarding, and window openings are fitted with glazed casements or boarded hinged shutters according to the means of the occupant.

The artisan class, as a rule, own their houses, whereas the unskilled labouring class usually rent one or two rooms in a compound for themselves and their families.

There are no Building Societies in Freetown, but a scheme inaugurated by the City Council enables houseowners and prospective houseowners to borrow money for the purpose of improving existing buildings and erecting new ones. Under this arrangement approximately thirty new houses have been erected at a cost of about £11,958.

Digitized by Google

In addition, a building scheme has been introduced by a firm of timber merchants in Freetown. Under this scheme, prospective owners of the type of house property costing from £250 to £600 can erect buildings under the supervision of the firm both expeditiously and inexpensively, payment being made by an initial small deposit followed by monthly instalments.

In connexion with this scheme, Government has laid out and has leased to the firm a small model residential area which enables intending houseowners to obtain (by assignment from the firm) leases of building plots at a moderate ground rent and with an option to purchase the freehold within 20 years.

Seven houses have now been completed on this area.

Protectorate.

In the Protectorate the great majority of houses of the wage-earning classes are built of wattle and mud daub with palm-tile or grass thatch roofs—and this form of construction is frequently also adopted by Europeans both official and unofficial. In the Protectorate, as a rule, the occupier is the owner, though in the larger towns there is always a floating population which rents the accommodation required.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Minerals.

Minerals occurring in economic quantities in Sierra Leone are gold, diamonds, iron, platinum, and probably chromite and ilmenite. The first four were mined during the year and an interest has also been taken in chromite.

Gold.—It is likely that the production of alluvial gold reached its peak during 1936. The output for the year reached 40,722 ounces of an estimated value of £266,217 which is an advance on the previous year's record of 32,947 ounces.

Gold has as yet only been produced from alluvial sources, but prospecting for lode has been active and at any rate at Pujehun the prospects are more than promising.

Attention has recently turned to the possibility of dredging in the bigger rivers, and an amount of work has been done in this connection.

Applications for mining ground have increased slightly during the year.

No new areas have been discovered but mining continues actively in the districts previously worked—namely Tonkolili (lately parts of Koinadugu and Bombali) and Karene in the Northern Province, and Bo, Kailahun and Kono in the Southern Province.

Digitized by Google

Diamonds.—This industry continues in a very satisfactory state. The output for the year is 616,200 carats which considerably exceeds that for 1935 which was 295,483 carats.

The diamonds are of gem quality and the reserves are considerable. As a result the future prospects are indeed bright.

Diamonds are being mined in the Kono District.

Iron Ore.—There are now indications of great prosperity for the iron and steel trade so that it is not surprising to find an increased output. The output is 566,595 tons which shows a big increase over last year when the production was 433,540 tons, The company concerned are erecting a concentration plant at Marampa for dealing with powder ore.

A survey for the proposed extension of the railway from Marampa to the Tonkolili area was completed some time ago, but the building has not yet commenced and it may be some time before the enormous Tonkolili deposits are exploited.

Platinum.—The United Africa Company, Limited, having worked out their areas, have now ceased mining. They were easily the largest producers, so the output has fallen considerably. A few individuals are engaged in a small way—a slight impetus having been given to them owing to the increased price. The output only amounts to 482 ounces against 750 ounces for last year. It is being mined in the Colony.

Chromite.—A special exclusive prospecting licence has been granted in respect of this mineral and tests are being carried out. It is too early yet to give any idea of the prospects. The chromite deposit is in the Kenema District.

Labour.—Labour is generally plentiful and the number employed has increased. There is an occasional shortage during the planting season and a certain number have moved over to French Guinea from the Northern Province as gold has recently been discovered near the Sierra Leone—French Guinea boundary.

Agricultural Produce.

Food Crops.

Rice.—The year 1936 was not a good year for rice. During the early months some 204 tons of rice (from the 1935 crop) were exported to Bathurst, Gambia, but bad " burns," due to early rains, limited the area cultivated and the upland crop was short in many places. Owing to the prolonged rains, the dry land crop was on the whole rather over a month late. This lateness of the crop caused some shortness during August to September. The wet land rice was at least up to the normal and probably a shade better. There has been a switch over of a large number of men from farming to mining (these are the

Digitized by Google

only two industries in the Colony), and the number of men employed in mining reached 14,000 in 1936, thereby creating an internal market for some 3,000 to 4,000 tons of rice, a market which did not exist previously to the last two or three years. The export of rice which had been confidently expected, and which was gradually growing up, can no longer be anticipated until the internal markets, recently created by the rapid expansion of mining activities, are fully supplied.

Considerable progress was made in the study and distribution of good types of rice in the Scarcies area and some 2,000 bushels of a variety known as G.E.B.24 were harvested in January and distributed during May for cultivation. By December it was obvious that 15,000 to 20,000 bushels of this new variety would reach the market in 1937.

A mill was erected and started operating in March. Very satisfactory results were obtained and the mill-cleaned rice sold at a premium over hand-cleaned rice. A test milling of G.E.B.24 showed that this rice gave a white product which would probably be suitable for export.

Cassava.—Work on the eradication of " mosaic " disease has been continued but progress is necessarily slow.

Export Crops.

Palm Kernels.—84,578 tons of kernels valued at £810,238 were exported in 1936. This is a record for the Colony, and the increase in value of the kernels exported was at once reflected in the increased customs returns. The increase in the value of kernels undoubtedly had a stimulating effect on production.

Ginger.—1,641 tons of ginger valued at £58,672 was exported. The improvement in price was very welcome and the crop was average in amount.

Piassava.—The export of piassava (3,558 tons) was the second highest yet reached, and there was a small improvement in price. The quality of both Sherbro and Sulima fibre was maintained, and Sherbro now produces the highest priced piassava on the West Coast.

Kola.—Some small improvement was shown in the kola trade. 2,301 tons valued at £41,539 were exported but the price still remains disappointingly low.

Cocoa.—There has been a gradual increase in this industry and in 1936 a record export of 301 tons was reached. This industry is again receiving the attention of the agricultural department.

Coffee.—A small amount of coffee is grown for local consumption and for export. So far only negligible quantities have been exported, but the native cultivator is interested in this crop and shows signs of increasing production.

Digitized by Google

Livestock.

There are as yet no statistics concerning the livestock of this country. Cattle-farming is carried out on a small scale in the Northern Province. A large proportion of the cattle (of which something like 5,000-6,000 are slaughtered annually in the Colony and Protectorate) is imported from French Guinea. Sheep and goats are bred on a moderate scale throughout the country, and pigs to a small extent. There are a few horses, the majority of which also come from French territory. The value of the export in hides amounted to £1,821 in 1936.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Imports.

The total value of imports into the Colony during the year 1936 amounted to £1,346,715 as compared with £1,214,315 in 1935, being an increase of £132,400.

The following table shows the value of imports by classes during the years 1935 and 1936:—

	1935.	*1936.*	*Increase.*	*Decrease.*
	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco	209,551	231,864	22,313	—
Class II.—Raw materials, etc.	72,909	67,526	—	5,383
Class III.—Articles mainly manufactured	816,438	965,374	148,936	—
Class IV.—Animals not for food, etc.	27,658	33,626	5,968	—
Class V.—Bullion, specie, etc....	87,759	48,325	—	39,434
Totals	1,214,315	1,346,715	177,217	44,817
Nett increase ...		£132,400.		

Compared with 1935 there were increases in the value of each of the three categories which constitute Class I—" Food " by £11,562, " Drink " by £6,353, and " Tobacco " (mainly unmanufactured) by £4,398.

Commercial and Government coal was mainly responsible for the decrease in Class II, the value being £8,386 less than the 1935 imports.

With few exceptions all items under Class III recorded an increase, particularly cotton piecegoods (£29,781).

The following table shows the commercial imports for home consumption of cotton piecegoods, including velveteen, for the years 1932 to 1936:—

Year.	*Quantity.* Sq. yds.	*Value.* £	*Duty obtained.* £
1932	11,169,367	262,959	48,651
1933	6,129,891	124,702	24,047
1934	5,638,488	107,740	26,524
1935	14,207,762	297,455	72,593
1936	14,408,232	328,107	76,320

Digitized by Google

The following table shows the value and percentage of the imports from the different countries during the years 1935 and 1936:—

	Value. 1935. £	*Percentage.* 1935.	*Value.* 1936. £	*Percentage.* 1936.
United Kingdom	852,124	70·17	942,746	70·00
British West African Possessions	34,837	2·87	4,882	0·36
British Possessions (other) ...	133,605	11·02	187,327	13·91
France	13,159	1·08	12,829	0·95
Germany	31,749	2·61	35,498	2·64
Netherlands	8,448	0·70	9,553	0·71
United States of America ...	74,293	6·11	66,833	4·96
Japan	9,258	0·76	19,754	1·47
Foreign West African Possessions	5,034	0·41	3,996	0·30
Other European Countries ...	41,016	3·38	46,592	3·46
Other Countries	10,792	0·89	16,705	1·24
Totals	£1,214,315	100·00	£1,346,715	100·00

Exports.

The total value of exports from the Colony during the year 1936 amounted to £2,376,965 (domestic exports being £2,224,918 and non-domestic £152,047).

The following table shows the value of exports by classes during the years 1935 and 1936:—

	1935. £	1936. £	*Increase.* £	*Decrease.* £
Class I— Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	46,982	69,601	22,619	—
Class II— Raw Materials and Articles mainly unmanufactured ...	1,283,271	1,900,088	616,817	—
Class III— Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	14,554	17,617	3,063	—
Class IV— Animals not for food ...	629	500	—	129
Class V— Bullion, Specie and Currency Notes	238,398	389,159	150,761	—
Totals	£1,583,834	2,376,965	793,260	129

Digitized by Google

The following table is a comparative statement of the principal exports during the years 1935 and 1936:—

		1935.		1936.	
		Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
			£		£
Benniseed	tons	370	3,122	409	4,991
Cocoa, raw	,,	164	2,043	301	5,542
Diamonds	value	—	402,067	—	725,272
Ginger	cwt.	30,121	36,918	32,831	58,673
Hides (cattle) tanned ...	lb.	13,905	770	21,516	1,197
Kola nuts	cwt.	37,183	39,415	46,017	41,539
Palm Kernels	tons	78,019	583,645	84,578	810,238
Palm Oil	,,	2,892	35,814	1,223	16,313
Peppers	lb.	40,385	665	64,812	1,354
Piassava	tons	3,438	30,998	3,558	32,777
Platinum	oz.	556	3,871	375	3,184
Rice	tons	1,024	6,183	208	1,418
Gold	oz.	33,216	225,423	38,804	256,139
Gum Copal	tons	—	—	—	—
Iron Ore	value	—	178,848	—	262,143

The following table shows the value and percentage of the exports to the different countries during the years 1935 and 1936:—

Country.	*Value. 1935.*	*Percentage. 1935.*	*Value. 1936.*	*Percentage. 1936.*
	£		£	
United Kingdom	1,078,923	68·12	1,469,276	61·81
British West African Possessions	48,822	3·08	175,847	7·40
British Possessions (other) ...	5,861	0·37	9,493	·40
France	1,628	0·10	6,966	·29
Germany	179,074	11·31	353,109	14·86
Netherlands	124,589	7·87	264,646	11·14
United States of America ...	39,110	2·46	23,748	1·00
Japan	—	—	—	—
Foreign West African Possessions	9,122	0·58	10,750	·45
Other European Countries ...	90,721	5·73	58,575	2·46
Other Countries	5,984	0·38	4,555	·19
Totals	£1,583,834	100·00	£2,376,965	100·00

Palm Kernels.—Eighty-four thousand five hundred and seventy-eight tons, or 6,559 tons in excess of 1935, were shipped. The Home market price advanced from £12 10s. in January to £17 15s. in December and averaged throughout the year £11 16s. 8d. as compared with £9 15s. 4d. in 1935.

Germany purchased 33,476 tons, an increase on the figure of 1935 of 14,781 tons. Shipments to the United Kingdom amounted to 25,657 tons, or a decrease of 9,932 tons. Exports to Netherlands rose from 14,711 to 21,507 tons.

Digitized by Google

The following table shows the quantity and value of palm kernels exported during the last five years:—

Year.	Quantity. Tons.	Value. £
1932	77,162	687,477
1933	64,083	472,824
1934	68,655	360,780
1935	78,019	583,645
1936	84,578	810,238

State of Trade.

The following comparative table summarizes the state of trade in the Colony during the past five years:—

Year.	Total Imports (less specie and currency notes).	Re-exports (less specie and currency notes).	Net Imports.	Domestic Exports.	Excess of net Imports over Domestic Exports.	Excess of Domestic Exports over net Imports.	Customs Duty on Imports and Exports.	Tonnage of Shipping entered and cleared.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1932	1,219,558	20,749	1,198,839	878,424	320,415	—	452,880	3,286,299
1933	817,108	18,306	798,802	753,930	44,872	—	371,686	3,509,799
1934	776,334	15,376	760,958	832,805	—	71,847	313,528	4,269,310
1935	1,126,556	14,043	1,112,513	1,556,816	—	444,303	441,966	4,794,868
1936	1,298,390	19,027	1,279,363	2,224,918	—	945,555	491,694	4,979,189

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages.

Artisans (Public Works).—In Freetown during 1936, Public Works artisans were paid from 2s. to 5s. 9d. a day for journeymen and from 1s. to 2s. 6d. for improvers. In a few exceptional cases certain journeymen were paid at the rate of 8s. 8d. a day.

In the Protectorate rates of pay varied from 6d. to 1s. for improvers and 1s. to 4s. 6d. for journeymen.

Labourers (Public Works).—In Freetown the rate of pay of ordinary unskilled labour was from 10d. to 1s. 3d. a day. In certain cases unskilled labour employed on special work in which they had acquired some proficiency were paid slightly higher rates, the maximum being 1s. 9d.

In the Protectorate the rates of pay for labourers varied from 6d. to 10d., while the rate of pay for headmen or gangers varied from 8d. to 2s. 6d. per diem.

The wages of artisans outside Government employ are practically the same as those paid by the Government departments.

Cost of Living.

Rice, the only staple food, was obtainable at from 6s. to 10s. a bushel.

Digitized by Google

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education.

Education is still governed by the Ordinance of 1929 and the Schedule of Rules for the Colony (1929) and the Protectorate (1930).

In the Colony the Protestant infant and primary schools are conducted by school committees as the result of the amalgamation of denominational schools. Of these there are 42. There are also two Government, three Roman Catholic and three Mohammedan schools. The managers of these schools, i.e., the owners of the school buildings or their representatives, are theoretically responsible for the upkeep of the buildings, but Government pays the salaries of teachers and provides equipment. All school fees are paid into Government revenue. There are at present 50 schools of this type in the Colony, with 7,362 pupils on their rolls and an average attendance of 5,481.

There is one Government secondary school for boys in the Colony and three assisted schools, which receive capitation and equipment grants; grants are also paid to qualified teachers. There are also four assisted girls secondary schools. In these schools there are on the rolls:—

Boys.—70 primary, 128 preparatory and 221 secondary pupils.

Girls.—351 primary, 94 preparatory and 162 secondary pupils.

There are also two assisted schools in the Colony which provide vocational training—The Sir Alfred Jones Trades School (wood-working) for boys, and the A.M.E. Girls Industrial School (Domestic Science). Courses in carpentry and printing form part of the curriculum at the Albert Academy, one of the assisted boys' secondary schools.

Apart from assisted schools there are two unassisted boys' secondary schools, a preparatory girls' school, and a number of unassisted primary schools.

Domestic science forms an important part of the curriculum in the education of girls. Special examinations are held annually by independent examiners and certificates and diplomas awarded to successful students. Training for nurses is given both at the Connaught (Government) Hospital and the Princess Christian (Mission) Hospital.

There is a scheme whereby a number of scholarships are awarded to enable boys and girls from primary schools to attend approved secondary schools.

Digitized by Google

Higher education in Arts and Theology is provided at the Fourah Bay College, a missionary institution affiliated to Durham University.

Government finances schemes for the training of male teachers in connection with Fourah Bay College and for the training of female teachers at the Women Teachers' Training College, Wilberforce.

An Agricultural Institute at Mabang, managed by the Trustees of the S. B. Thomas Bequest, provides training in agriculture for a limited number of youths from the Colony.

In the Protectorate there are three Government schools; there are also 83 assisted mission schools, which are eligible for capitation, building and equipment grants; teachers' salaries being paid by the missions and supplemented in the case of qualified teachers only by grants from Government. These schools are attended by 7,175 pupils, consisting of 5,338 boys and 1,837 girls.

There is no school in the Protectorate covering the complete secondary course, but the Bo Government School and two or three mission schools have classes of secondary grade.

The Union College at Bunumbu trains youths, who combine the roles of teachers and evangelists.

There is also an assisted (Catholic) Industrial School at Mobe, which gives instruction in the trades of boat-building and wood and metal working.

A notable development in Freetown is the quality of the singing in schools. A special music master teaches singing on correct lines, and very good results have been achieved. An annual singing competition is held, at which the greatest keenness is displayed.

Instruction in physical training is supervised by an officer specifically appointed for the purpose. His activities at present are limited to the schools and training colleges in Freetown and the vicinity.

Welfare Institutions.

The methods of caring for the poor and sick and the burial of deceased destitute persons remained the same during 1936 as in the previous year. Friendly Societies abound.

Mental Home.

There is a mental home at Kissy, about five miles from Freetown.

X.—COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

Colony.—The principal means of communication between the smaller towns and villages of the Colony is by non-motorable roads, but there is a motor road from Freetown to Waterloo

Digitized by Google

(20 miles) which connects several villages on the route with the capital of the Colony. Freetown is connected to Lumley Village (6¼ miles) and to Hill Station (5 miles) by bitumen-surfaced laterite gravel roads, and a laterite gravel road three miles in length from Hill Station affords facilities for the use of motor transport to the population in and around the village of Regent. There are 50 miles of roads and streets in the capital of the Colony of which about 31½ miles are motorable. The principal streets are surface treated with bitumen and are provided with concrete surface-water drains and channels.

Protectorate.—The total mileage of maintained roads in the Protectorate is 807¾. The roads are surfaced with laterite and are for the greater part 16 feet wide.

The majority of the bridges are built with concrete abutments and piers, and steel joists carrying a timber deck, but there still remains a number of timber beam and trestle bridges which are being reconstructed to a standard type, with a 9 feet wide deck, as their condition requires and funds permit. In addition to the above Government-maintained roads, there are chiefs' roads, constructed and maintained by the tribal authorities concerned, which are not usually open to heavy motor vehicles and are sometimes not available for motor traffic in the wet season.

Ferries are used in cases where the width of rivers has rendered the construction of bridges financially impracticable. There are fifteen such ferries in the Protectorate, the pontoons being constructed of timber with one exception which has a steel pontoon. The pontoons are connected by steel wire rope bridles to a wheeled traveller moving on a steel cable-way which is slung between towers on the banks. The pontoon is impelled across the river partly by the action of the current and partly by the boat crew hauling on a light steel hand-line also slung between the banks.

Railway.

The total length of open line at the end of 1936 was 311 miles, with a gauge of 2 ft. 6 ins.

Capital expenditure on the railway to the 31st December, 1936, was £1,428,244.

The total revenue of the railway was £200,243, which shows an increase of £20,238 over the figure for the previous year. The revenue includes £1,071 for contributions to the Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Fund.

The expenditure other than capital for the year was £187,601, which shows an increase of £1,046 as compared with 1935. This total includes £57,693 for loan charges, pensions and gratuities, cost of services rendered by other Government departments, and expenses in connexion with the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. Working expenditure amounted to £129,908 and gross receipts £200,243.

Digitized by Google

Passenger journeys in the year were 540,990, an increase of 90,283 over the previous year, and the tonnage carried was 76,887 against 71,628 in 1935.

	1913.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Receipts per train mile	9 6·11	11 7·13	10 10·71	8 5·39	8 10·93	8 7·88	8 11·03	9 7·69	10 3·16
Working expenses per train mile	*5 1·09	10 4·34	11 4·17	8 9·48	8 3·86	8 1·98	7 8·82	6 10·82	6 7·90
Passengers carried ...	438,388	367,602	258,834	252,472	408,149	373,161	377,123	449,513	540,990
Tonnage carried ...	62,084	75,473	70,949	61,859	66,024	58,866	59,938	71,628	76,887

* Exclusive of pensions, gratuities, etc.

The rolling stock in use during the year consisted of 39 locomotives, 70 coaching vehicles and 304 goods vehicles.

Motor Bus Service.

The motor bus service is under the direction of the General Manager of the Railway. This service runs on two routes, viz., route 1 to Hill Station European Settlement through Wilberforce, a distance of five miles, and route 2 to Lumley Beach, where there is an excellent golf links, 6½ miles from Freetown, on the western sea-board of the peninsula of Sierra Leone. The fleet in 1936 consisted of five passenger vehicles and two lorries.

The total number of passengers carried was 262,624 and the gross receipts amounted to £3,164.

The staff employed was:—

European	1
Africans	19
Total	20

Postal Business.

There was considerable increase in postal business during 1936. Postal business was conducted from 14 post offices and 53 postal agencies, money-order business from 23, and postal-order business from 55 offices.

The total revenue collected was £24,989 as against £22,331 in the previous year. Of this amount, £16,661 was derived from direct postal revenue, £6,639 from Customs duty on parcels, and £1,689 from the sale of stamps for Inland Revenue purposes.

As regards correspondence, the estimated number of articles of all kinds, including 89,540 registered articles, dealt with during the year was 2,209,400, as compared with 2,003,800 in 1935. Money-order transactions increased from 3,728 (value £20,922) in 1935 to 3,843 (value £22,103) in 1936.

Digitized by Google

The total number of postal-orders issued during the year was 57,726 valued at £35,448, and the number of postal-orders paid was 46,836 valued at £29,974, as compared with the previous year, viz., orders issued 50,381 valued at £30,748, orders paid 41,523 valued at £26,110.

The parcel post transactions showed an increase, 36,516 parcels being handled as against 32,180 the previous year.

In the cash-on-delivery parcels service (with Great Britain only) 10,526 parcels were received (value £19,104) as compared with 8,512 (value £14,452) in 1935.

Telegraph System.

The internal telegraph system is maintained by the railway. The main system runs from Freetown to Pendembu (227½ miles from Freetown) with transmitting stations at Bauya and Bo; this system is connected up by branches with most of the district headquarters in the Protectorate. The total mileage is 1,099¼, plus the railway traffic control line of 455 miles.

Telephones.

The only service is that in Freetown and district, maintained by the Railway Department. The total mileage is 394¼.

Broadcast Relay Service.

The Broadcast Service was inaugurated in May, 1934, and is owned and controlled by Government.

It is a relay service which operates on the rediffusion principle. The equipment, consisting of rectifying apparatus, two short-wave battery operated receivers and five power amplifiers, together with studio and gramophone equipment, is of the latest design. The power amplifiers are capable of giving a combined undistorted output of 300 watts.

Directional reflector aerials are used and are erected 500 ft. above sea level.

The station relays as a standard programme the whole of Transmissions II and IV in the Empire programme from Daventry on wavelengths of 13, 16, 19, 25 and 31 metres. All transmissions from Daventry are receivable at good signal strength in normal circumstances.

The number of subscribers up to date is over 720.

Cables and Wireless.

Cable and Wireless Limited maintain a cable office and a low-power wireless station in Freetown; the latter is used mainly for communicating with shipping.

Digitized by Google

Increase in the knowledge of wireless telegraphy and recent improvement in the manufacture of wireless installations of moderate cost have led to considerable numbers of applications on the part of private individuals for licences under the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1924, and the holders of such licences have little difficulty in picking up any station in Europe and American broadcasting on suitable short-wavelengths.

Shipping.

There was an increase of eight in the number of steam and motor vessels entering in the Colony during the year and in tonnage 88,389. Of a total of 2,485,750 tons entered, 66·58 per cent. was British, 8·91 German, 3·13 Italian, 5·73 French, 6·25 American and 5·72 Netherlands.

The following shipping lines call regularly at Freetown on their way to or from other West African ports:—

Digitized by Google

Line.	*Destination.*	*Passenger or Cargo.*	*Frequency of Calls.*	*Mail contract.*	*Other feature of the contract, and other remarks.*
Elder Dempster Lines, Limited, Liverpool.	Liverpool ...	Passenger	26 (1 each 2 weeks) plus supplementary end of summer.	Liverpool and West African Colonies	Colony pays a proportion of the subsidy for the conveyance of mails between Liverpool and West African Colonies.
,, ,, ,,	,, ...	Cargo	18 (1 each 2 weeks).		Cargo vessels also have passenger accommodation usually for 12.
,, ,, ,,	London	,,	13 (one each 4 weeks).		
,, ,, ,,	Continent ...	,,	18 (1 each 3 weeks).		Extra services to United Kingdom, Continent and United States of America put in as inducement offered.
,, ,, ,,	New York ...	,,	13 (one each 4 weeks).		Passenger services also accept cargo at this port.
,, ,, ,,	Canada—South Africa.	,,	12 (1 monthly)		
,, ,, ,,	Coast Ports ...	Passenger	26 (1 each 2 weeks).		
,, ,, ,,	,, ...	Cargo	52 (1 each week)		
,, ,, ,,	Hull	,,	1 every 4 weeks.		
United Africa Company Steamers	Liverpool and West African ports.	2nd Class cargo boats	Twice monthly.		
Navigazione Libera Triestina (Italian Line).	Genoa	2nd Class cargo boats.	Once a month.		
Sierra Leone Development Co....	United Kingdom	Iron Ore	About once every 6 weeks.		
American West African Line, Inc., New York.	New York ...	Passenger and cargo	18 round voyages calling outward and Homeward 12 months.	Mail contract with U.S. Government outwards.	

Digitized by Google

Line.	*Destination.*	*Passenger or Cargo.*	*Frequency of Calls.*	*Mail contract.*	*Other feature of the contract, and other remarks.*
American West African Line, Inc., New York—*cont.*	U.S. Gulf ports ...	Passenger and cargo	5 round voyages calling outward and Homeward 12 months.	Mail contract with U.S. Government outwards.	
Holland West-Afrika Lijn, Amsterdam	Le Havre, Amsterdam and Hamburg.	Passenger	1 monthly (outward). 1 monthly (Homeward).	Mail contract with Netherlands Government.	
,, ,, ,,	Rotterdam, Amsterdam and Hamburg.	Cargo	1 monthly (outward). 1 monthly (Homeward).		
,, ,, ,,	Coast ports up to Spanish Guinea.	Cargo	1 monthly (outward). 1 monthly (Homeward).		
Woermann Linie	Southampton, Boulogne s/mer, Hamburg and Continental ports.	Passenger	2 monthly.	Mail contract with Spanish Government.	
,, ,, ...	Hamburg and Continental ports.	Cargo	1 monthly.	,, ,,	
,, ,, ...	Coast ports ...	Passenger	1 monthly.	,, ,,	
,, ,, ...	Coast ports ...	Cargo	1 monthly.	,, ,,	
Cie. Generale de Navigation a vapeur (Cie. Fabre), and Cie. Marseilles de Navigation a Vapeur (Cie. Fraissinet) combined services.	Marseilles ...	Passenger and cargo.	2 monthly (1 Homeward and 1 outward).	Mail contract with the Sierra Leone Government.	
,, ,, ,,	Marseilles ...	Passenger and cargo.	1 every 3 weeks (average).		
Societe Navale de l'ouest Chargeurs Reunis.	Coast ports ...	Cargo (combined services).	1 monthly (average).		

Digitized by Google

The lower reaches of all the rivers of Sierra Leone are navigable for boats and canoes, and a considerable traffic is carried on by these means. The most commonly used craft are open sailing boats with a carrying capacity of about four tons. During recent years motor launches have come into use and this form of water transport appears to be growing increasingly popular with the natives.

There are four ports of entry in the Colony, viz., Freetown, Bonthe, Sulima, and Mano Salija.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

Banking facilities are afforded by the Bank of British West Africa, Limited, and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas). The former is established at Freetown (local head office) with a branch at Bonthe (Sherbro) and agencies at the more important trading centres. Barclays Bank is established at Freetown, and has no branches or agencies.

Both banks afford their customers savings bank facilities. In addition there is the Government (Post Office) Savings Bank, controlled from Freetown, with nineteen agencies throughout the Colony and Protectorate. The balance standing to the credit of depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank on 31st December, 1936, was £74,229.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks. The absence of realizable security and direct ownership properly registered precludes the possibility of the introduction of the former. The co-operative movement has not yet been introduced.

Currency.

The coins current in Sierra Leone are:—

United Kingdom gold, silver, and bronze coins;

West African silver coins, value 2s., 1s., 6d., 3d.;

West African alloy coins value of the same denominations; and

West African nickel-bronze coins of the value of 1d., ½d.

The United Kingdom coins have been superseded by the West African coins. The West African silver coins authorized by the Sierra Leone and Gambia Coinage Order, 1913, and introduced in that year are being withdrawn from circulation. Other West African coins of mixed metals of the same denominations and of the same weights, and authorised by His Majesty's Order in Council of February, 1920, were introduced in July, 1920, to replace the silver coins.

Digitized by Google

Gold and silver coins are legal tender up to any amount and copper and nickel-bronze coins up to one shilling.

West African currency notes of the values £5, 20s., 10s., 2s., and 1s., were introduced in 1916 under the Currency Note Ordinance of that year. Currency notes of the value of 20s. and 10s. are now in circulation, the £5, 2s., and 1s. having been withdrawn. A new issue of the West African currency notes of 20s. and 10s. denomination was put into circulation on 1st July, 1928; the old issue notes are being withdrawn.

Weights and Measures.

There has been no addition to the standards and no new legislation relating to the inspection of weights and measures in the Colony.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During 1936 the whole length of Samba Water, a stream running from Tower Hill to Joaque bridge was canalized and the upper section of Wellington Street drained on either side and the road made up to a uniform width and camber. The finished work is functioning satisfactorily.

New Passenger Jetty.—The erection of the new passenger jetty was completed in September and was used for the first time upon the return from leave of His Excellency Sir Henry Moore on 10th October. It is a great convenience to passengers embarking and disembarking.

New Hospital, Port Loko.—A complete hospital unit was constructed at Port Loko out of Protectorate Mining Benefits Trust Fund and provides an out-patients' block with dispensary and operating theatre, a ward block for twelve patients, a patients' waiting shelter combined with garage for Medical Officer's car, a kitchen and a hospital store, a living room, sanitary accommodation for the hospital orderly, a mortuary, and dispenser's quarters complete with usual offices. All the above buildings were constructed of concrete blocks and present a workmanlike finish. Two rain-water tanks each of 3,200 gallons capacity were erected adjacent to the hospital.

Rice Mill.—The rice mill was formally opened by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henry Monck-Mason Moore, on 2nd May, 1937.

Electric Light and Power.

An electric light and power scheme put into service in April, 1928, is in operation by Government in Freetown. High tension alternating current is generated by Diesel engines and distributed at British standard voltage and periodicity. Charges to consumers are 1s. per unit for lighting, with a favourable decreasing rate of charge to users of domestic appliances, and 4d. per unit

Digitized by Google

for power decreasing to 2d. according to consumption. In certain cases special tariffs have been approved for other than private consumers, each having a favourable decreasing rate of charge in a manner similar to that for users of domestic appliances. Such special tariffs are based upon the various different average consumptions of current of each consumer.

There is a flat-rate charge for consumers with only three or four lights ranging from 10s. to 19s. per month. The distribution scheme covers a wide area and building sites and power are available for industrial development.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Courts of Justice.

The West African Court of Appeal.—This Court has an appellate jurisdiction in both civil and criminal matters, in respect of certain decisions of the Supreme Court of the Colony, and of the Circuit Court of the Protectorate. The Judges of the Court are the Judges of the Supreme Courts of the Gold Coast, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and the Gambia Colony, and the Judges of the High Court of the Protectorate of Nigeria.

The Court sits periodically at Freetown for the hearing of appeals arising in Sierra Leone and the Gambia.

Courts of the Colony.—The following Courts have jurisdiction in the Colony:—

(i) *The Supreme Court* (*Ordinance No.* 39 *of* 1932).

(*a*) The Court consists of a Chief Justice and Puisne Judge, and also of the Chief Justice and every Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, the Chief Justice and every Judge of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, and the Judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony of the Gambia.

(*b*) In its ordinary jurisdiction the Court has all the powers of the High Court of Justice in England, except the Admiralty jurisdiction.

(*c*) The Court has also a summary jurisdiction in civil causes similar to that of the County Courts in England.

(*d*) The Court is also a Court of Appeal from any decision, civil or criminal of a Magistrate or District Commissioner.

(ii) *Magistrates' Courts* (*Cap.* 118).

There are certain Judicial Districts in each of which is established a Magistrate's Court for the summary trial of criminal causes and with power to commit persons for trial before the Supreme Court. These Courts have also jurisdiction in various quasi-criminal causes, which is conferred upon them by sundry Ordinances. Each Court is presided over by a Magistrate or District Commissioner or by two Justices of the Peace.

Digitized by Google

(iii) *Courts of Requests* (*Cap.* 43).

These are courts for the trial of civil causes in which the amount involved does not exceed a sum fixed by the Ordinance. There is one Court for each Judicial District. Each Court is presided over by a Magistrate or District Commissioner who in this capacity is styled " Judge of the Court of Requests," or by two Commissioners.

Courts of the Protectorate.—The Courts of Law of the Protectorate are as follows:—

(i) *The Circuit Court* (*Ordinance No.* 40 *of* 1932).

(*a*) This Court is constituted by the Chief Justice or Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony, each of whom, when sitting in this Court, is styled " the Judge of the Circuit Court."

(*b*) With very few exceptions the Court has the same criminal and civil jurisdiction in the Protectorate as the Supreme Court has in the Colony. Divorce and matrimonial causes are, however, specially withdrawn from its jurisdiction.

(*c*) The Court also hears appeals from decisions of District Commissioners in both criminal and civil causes.

(ii) *Courts of District Commissioners* (*Ordinance No.* 40 *of* 1932).

(*a*) In each district there is a Court constituted by the District Commissioner and known as " the Court of the District Commissioner " or " The District Court."

A Provincial Commissioner, who is in charge of a group of districts known as a Province, has the same jurisdiction as a District Commissioner in each of those districts. (Ordinance No. 32 of 1933.)

An Assistant District Commissioner has the same jurisdiction as a District Commissioner in the district in which he is stationed, if appointed by the District Commissioner to exercise it. (Ordinance No. 32 of 1933.)

(*b*) The criminal jurisdiction of these Courts is practically the same as that of the Magistrates' Courts in the Colony. They can commit persons for trial before the Circuit Court, or, in very rare cases, before the Supreme Court of the Colony. They also possess a civil jurisdiction in most cases up to £50.

(iii) *Courts of Native Chiefs* (*Ordinance No.* 40 *of* 1932).

The Courts are composed of native chiefs and have a limited civil and criminal jurisdiction in cases arising exclusively between natives of the Protectorate, other than

Digitized by Google

persons employed in the Government service. They are subject in all respects to supervision of the District Commissioner who can amend, vary or set aside any of their decisions or sentences.

(iv) *Combined Courts* (*Ordinance No.* 40 *of* 1932).

In certain chiefdoms where there is a considerable number of non-natives settled or residing, the Paramount Chief and a non-native appointed by the District Commissioner, subject to confirmation by the Governor, sit as " Joint Judges " to decide petty civil cases arising between non-natives and natives. The orders of this Court may be enforced by the District Commissioner who can review its decision in all cases.

Criminal Cases tried in the Police Magistrate's Court, Freetown, in 1936.

Offences.	*Cases reported.*	*Persons arrested.*	*Persons convicted.*	*Persons discharged.*	*Committed for trial.*
Assault and Battery ...	98	107	84	19	—
Harbour Offences ...	31	41	39	2	—
Stowaways	15	15	11	4	—
Customs Offences ...	35	40	35	5	—
Housebreaking ...	9	3	3	—	—
Burglary	5	2	—	—	2
Larceny	364	406	332	44	9
Larceny from Ship ...	14	17	11	2	—
Public Health Offences	128	141	133	7	—
Shopbreaking	12	9	8	1	—
Larceny from a Person	74	81	63	6	—
Breach of Immigration Restriction Law ...	3	15	15	—	—
Selling Palm Wine without Licence	4	4	4	—	—
Disorderly conduct ...	77	157	141	8	—
Fighting	22	45	41	4	—
Drunk	14	14	14	—	—
Wounding	2	2	—	—	—
Totals	907	1,099	934	102	11
		Juveniles.			
Larceny	42	42	42	—	—
Assault and Battery ...	4	4	4	—	—
Throwing Stones ...	1	1	1	—	—
Committing Nuisance...	2	2	2	—	—
Unlawful Possession ...	3	3	3	—	—
Acting as a Guide ...	2	2	2	—	—
Totals	54	54	54	—	—

Digitized by Google

Return of Criminal Cases tried in the Circuit Court during the year 1936.

District.	*Number of persons prosecuted.*	*Number of persons imprisoned.*	*Number of persons fined or otherwise punished.*	*Number of persons condemned.*	*Number of persons discharged.*
Bombali ...	1	—	—	—	1
Karene ...	4	4	—	—	—
Kenema ...	2	1	—	—	1
Kailahun ...	4	3	—	—	1
Kono ...	4	2	—	1	1
Koinadugu ...	3	—	—	—	2
					One died before trial.
Bo	4	4	—	—	—
Moyamba ...	10	4	—	—	5
					One died before trial.
Port Loko ...	4	2	—	1	1
Tonkolili ...	5	2	—	—	3
Pujehun ...	7	5	—	—	2
Bonthe ...	1	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	49	28	—	2	17

Police.

During the year 1936, the strength of the Police Force was increased by one 3rd Class constable.

Prisons.

There are now 12 prisons administered by the Prisons Department, which have been established as follows:—

Colony.—Freetown, convict and local; Bonthe, local.

Protectorate.—Northern Province, local prisons; Port Loko, Kabala, Makeni, Bathenu, Tonkolili,

Southern Province, local prisons; Kenema, Moyamba, Pujehun, Masanki, Sefadu.

The number of persons committed to the central prison at Freetown during the years 1935 and 1936 was as follows:—

	1935.	*1936.*
Males	933	904
Females	12	4
Juvenile adults	4	18
Juvenile offenders	14	Nil

The total daily average number in custody was:—

1935.	*1936.*
243	233·727

The number of persons committed to the local prisons of the Colony and Protectorate during the years 1935 and 1936 was:—

	1935.	*1936.*
Males	1,050	1,285
Females	5	4

Digitized by Google

The daily average number in custody was 179 as against 143 in 1935.

Health.—The general health of the prisoners was good. The total number of deaths at all prisons was three, compared with five in 1935.

Industrial.—Short-sentence prisoners were employed in the kitchen garden, and on general labouring, quarrying stone, sanitary work and planting fruit trees on Government land. Long-sentence prisoners were engaged in the usual industries which consist of rice-milling, tailoring, tarpaulin and mattress making, bread-making and carpentry.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The more important Ordinances enacted during 1936 were:—

The Juvenile Offenders Ordinance, 1936,

The Diamond Industry Protection Ordinance, 1936,

The Post Office Savings Bank Ordinance, 1936,

The Counterfeit Currency Ordinance, 1936,

The African Labourers (Employment at Sea) Ordinance, 1936,

The Notaries Public Ordinance, 1936,

The Public Officers Protection Ordinance, 1936,

The United Kingdom Designs (Protection) Ordinance, 1936.

The Juvenile Offenders Ordinance, 1936, provides for the first time special measures for the trial and punishment of juvenile offenders in the Colony. The provisions of the Ordinance require the separate sittings of Summary Courts as Juvenile Courts for the general trial of children under 12 years of age, and with their consent of young persons under 16 years of age. The admission of the general public to such Courts is severely restricted as well as the publication of reports of cases in the public Press. Restrictions are also placed on the punishment of children and young persons and no child can be sentenced to a term of imprisonment. Generally speaking the Ordinance introduced all the principal provisions of the English law on this subject as were thought applicable to the needs of the Colony and which were capable of satisfactory administration at the present time.

The Diamond Industry Protection Ordinance, 1936, has been enacted to give protection to the diamond industry. The mining of these highly precious stones attracts to the neighbourhood of the mines persons seeking to take advantage of the employees of the mining company in order to receive stones unlawfully obtained. Such traffic is not easy to detect and this measure is designed to strengthen the hands of the local administration in dealing with this situation in the immediate vicinity of the mines.

Digitized by Google

The Post Office Savings Bank Ordinance, 1936, repeals and replaces the Post Office Savings Bank Ordinance, 1924 (Cap. 159), and gives effect to the recommendations of a Committee which had been appointed to examine the Savings Bank Systems in the various Crown Colonies and formulate a scheme for uniform legislation on this subject. The chief recommendations which have been adopted in the measure may be summarized (*inter alia*) as follows: The Ordinance contains a clear statement of ultimate Government liability. It provides that Savings Bank accounts shall be kept distinct from the accounts of any Government Department. Also expenses incurred on Savings Bank business shall be charged against Savings Bank funds. Again the non-liability of Government has been expressly declared. The rule-making power has been considerably extended and many provisions of the repealed Ordinance which were omitted from the new enactment have been more suitably included in the new Savings Bank Rules.

The Counterfeit Currency Ordinance, 1936, gives effect in Sierra Leone to an International Convention signed at Geneva in 1929 for the suppression of counterfeiting currency, by applying certain Imperial Statutes in force in England relating to these matters. It also amends the law relating to the counterfeiting of coins and to forgery. The Imperial Counterfeit Medal Act of 1883 has also been applied. A further important provision has been inserted dealing with enquiries which are made from time to time through the medium of the post by persons who are desirous of obtaining coining tools or counterfeit coin and currency.

The African Labourers (Employment at Sea) Ordinance, 1936, is designed to regulate the engagement of and payment of wages to African labourers employed or engaged locally for service on sea-going vessels while such ships are operating on the West Coast of Africa. This class of labourer had not been provided for under the Employers and Employed Ordinance, 1934. For some years prior to the enactment of this measure, Government had under consideration the methods adopted in the engagement of Kroos and other tribesmen who desired employment as stevedores on board ships. It appeared that the headmen who were engaged by the shipping companies for the purpose of collecting gangs of labourers demanded a contribution from each applicant for employment, and consequently no African labourer could expect or hope to obtain employment unless he offered a substantial consideration out of his future earnings. The headmen were not employees of the shipping companies, but were independent contractors and therefore did not come within the purview of the Prevention of Corruption Ordinance, 1924. This form of extortion must have undoubtedly caused considerable hardship in the past, and it is hoped that this measure which has been designed to suppress any " pecuniary

Digitized by Google

inducements " of this particular nature will have the desired effect. Persons seeking employment are also prohibited in future from offering any reward for obtaining such employment. The Ordinance also directs that all wages must be paid personally to a labourer without any deductions except such as are authorized by the terms of his contract or by law. The wages of a labourer must also be paid in money and not in kind. The Ordinance also prohibits any traffic in the sale of " tickets " which are issued to persons who are accepted for employment on board any ocean-going vessels.

The Notaries Public Ordinance, 1936, provides for the appointment of legal practitioners of a certain standing in the profession to be Notaries Public within the Colony and Protectorate and is based on similar legislation in force in West Africa.

The Public Officers' Protection Ordinance, 1936, was enacted in order to substitute a uniform, improved and simpler mode of procedure for the provisions which appear in some enactments as to the privileges of persons sued in respect of acts done by them in real or supposed conformity with the laws of this country. The measure will generally also secure all persons and bodies administering statutory or other public duties from stale or speculative actions and afford them an adequate opportunity of tendering amends before action and thus avoiding costs.

The United Kingdom Designs (Protection) Ordinance, 1936, simplifies and cheapens the procedure with regard to the local protection of designs by according to proprietors of designs registered in the United Kingdom under the Patents and Designs Acts, 1907 to 1932, the same rights and privileges in this country as they enjoy in the United Kingdom. It is considered that the automatic protection afforded under this new measure will more adequately safeguard designs against infringement by unscrupulous persons who copy designs.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The financial year closed on the 31st December, 1936, showing the financial position of the Colony to be as follows:—

	£	£
Excess of Assets over Liabilities on 1st January, 1936		194,878
Revenue, 1936	969,668	
Expenditure, 1936	879,370	
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure		90,298
Balance of Assets over Liabilities on 31st December, 1936		285,176

Digitized by Google

The Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the past five years were:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1932	872,469	831,921
1933	655,529	691,686
1934	598,839	603,208
1935	678,978	585,574
1936	969,668	879,370*

* Includes £187,020 transferred to Reserve Funds.

The funded debt of the Colony on the 31st December, 1936, was £1,718,259 against which the accumulated sinking funds, for its amortization, amounted to £474,601.

Assets.

The assets of the Colony as disclosed in the Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December, 1936, amounted to £644,701 made up as follows:—

	£
Reserve and surplus Funds invested...	309,512
Other investments	109,147
Stores	15,335
Loans	26,214
Advances	39,427
Cash	145,066

Taxation.

The main heads of taxation from which revenue was derived in 1936 were:—

	£
Customs	490,787
Port, Harbour and Lighthouse dues ...	16,170
Licences and Internal Revenue ...	40,709
Taxes	194,073

Customs Tariff Imports.

Preferential duties were introduced in Sierra Leone in May, 1932, and quotas on imports of textiles from foreign countries were imposed as from the 16th June, 1934. There are no treaty obligations. The tariff is mainly specific. All edible provisions and articles ordinarily used for human consumption, not specifically mentioned in the tariff, however, pay an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. (Preferential) and 25 per cent. (General). On all goods, wares and merchandise not included in any item in the tariff an *ad valorem* duty is levied of 20 per cent. (Preferential) and 40 per cent. (General).

Some of the more important duties levied on imported goods are: cotton piece-goods—bleached, 1d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and 2d. per sq. yd. (General); coloured and dyed, 1½d. per

Digitized by Google

sq. yd. (Preferential) and 3d. per sq. yd. (General); grey ¾d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and 1½d. per sq. yd. (General) and printed, 1¼d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and 2½d. per sq. yd. (General). Cotton yarn, 3d. per lb. (Preferential) and 6d. per lb. (General); fish, canned or otherwise preserved, 6s. 3d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and 12s. 6d. per 100 lb. (General); fish—dried, salted, smoked or pickled, not in tins, jars or bottles, 2s. 6d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and 5s. per 100 lb. (General); flour, free (Preferential) and 1s. per 100 lb. (General); lard 8s. 4d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and 16s. 8d. per 100 lb. (General); matches, 1s. 6d. per gross of boxes (Preferential) and 3s. 6d. per gross of boxes (General); meat, canned or bottled, 10s. 5d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and £1 0s. 10d. per 100 lb. (General); milk, condensed or otherwise preserved, free (Preferential) and 4s. per 36 lb. (General); kerosene, 4½d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 9d. per imperial gallon (General); motor spirit, 5½d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 11d. per imperial gallon (General); edible oil, 2d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 8d. per imperial gallon (General); onions, free (Preferential) and ¼d. (General); potatoes, ¼d. per lb. (Preferential) and ½d. per lb. (General); table salt, 1s. 8d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and 3s. 4d. per 100 lb. (General); coarse salt, 1s. per cwt. (Preferential) and 2s. 9d. per cwt. (General); artificial silk piece-goods, 2d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and 6d. per sq. yd. (General); silk piece-goods, 1s. 6d. per lb. (Preferential) and 4s. 6d. per lb. (General); toilet soap, 12s. 6d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and £1 5s. per 100 lb. (General); soap, other kinds, 7s. 6d. per cwt. (Preferential) and 15s. per cwt. (General).

On spirits (50 per cent. volume of alcohol) duty is levied at the rate of £1 13s. 6d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and £1 16s. per imperial gallon (General), and on wines (still), 3s. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 6s. per imperial gallon (General). Beer and ale, stout and porter pay at 1s. 6d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 3s. per imperial gallon (General).

Unmanufactured tobacco is subject to a duty of 1s. 2d. per lb. (Preferential) and 1s. 6d. per lb. (General); manufactured tobacco pays from 6s. 6d. per lb. (Preferential) to 8s. 3d. per lb. (General) and cigarettes from 1s. 6d. per 100 (Preferential) to 2s. 6d. per 100 (General). The duty leviable on lumber is 15s. per 1,000 superficial feet (Preferential) and £1 10s. per 1,000 superficial feet (General).

Export Duties.

The following exports are subject to duty:—palm kernels, £1 a ton; kola nuts, ½d. a lb.

Digitized by Google

Royalties.

The following royalties are levied on minerals exported from the Colony: on chromite, 1s. 3d. per ton; on ilmenite, 1s. per ton; on platinum, 5 per cent. on the value; on crude gold, 9 per cent. on the ascertained value of the combined gold and silver content of the crude metal as shown by the refiner's certificate.

Drawbacks.

The usual provision is made for payment of drawback, 95 per cent. of duties paid on imported goods being allowed.

Wines, spirits, petroleum products, tobacco, arms and ammunition, gunpowder, West African products (excluding Liberian coffee) and manufactures, potatoes, onions and rice are excluded from this benefit.

Excise and Stamp Duties.

Under a Stamp Duty Ordinance, stamp duties are levied on cheques, bills of exchange, deeds, legal documents, probates, etc. The aggregate collections in 1936 amounted to £1,006.

There are no Excise duties, but revenue is derived from Licences, as follows:—

Auctioneers, hawkers, spirits, store, wine and beer, petroleum, motor vehicles, dog and game licences, etc.

Pawnbroker, bicycle, showkeepers and hotel licences, etc., are levied by the Freetown City Council.

House Tax.

A house tax of five shillings per house is levied throughout the Protectorate and yields approximately £80,000 annually. The District Commissioners control the collections in the various chiefdoms, but the native chiefs are responsible and receive a remuneration of 5 per cent. on such collections. The assessment is made biennially or triennially by Assistant District Commissioners as occasion arises, aided by the Paramount Chiefs. House Tax in Freetown and Sherbro Judicial District is assessed on the value of the property and varies in different years. House Tax in the remainder of Colony villages is at a fixed rate of five shillings per house.

Poll Tax.

Under the Non-native Poll Tax Ordinance every non-native is required to pay an annual tax of £4.

Digitized by Google

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Surveys.

Topographical Survey.—The topographical survey of the Protectorate on the scale of 1/62,500 was commenced in 1925 and completed in 1930. It comprises 109 sheets; of these, only 45 have been printed and published. All the remaining sheets are now available locally in sunprint form. In connection with mining surveys a certain amount of revision has been done on several sheets and it is hoped that funds and staff will shortly become available to revise the whole area. A gazetteer of the names of all towns and villages in the Protectorate is in course of preparation.

Cadastral Survey.—One hundred and forty-four mining surveys comprising fifteen exclusive prospecting licences, two mining leases, and 127 mining rights were executed during the year. Seven miles of Crown mangrove swamp boundaries were traversed and beaconed. Five additional sheets of the cadastral survey of the Colony were taken up. The town survey of Bo was printed and issued in three sheets on the 1/2,500 scale.

The drawing office prepared 563 plans and tracings and 880 sunprints. In addition 100 sunprints of topographical sheets were supplied to Government departments and to prospectors.

Lands Branch.—All the usual business in connection with grants, acquisitions, valuations, leases, preparation of tenancy agreements, collection of rents, beaconing of Crown Lands, etc., has been carried out.

General.—The value of maps supplied to Government departments during the year amounted to £97 14s. 3d. Sale of maps to the public realized £81 10s. 6d. Revenue from mining surveys amounted to £3,017 1s.

Geological Survey.—At the kind invitation of the Government of French West Africa the officer-in-charge of the geological survey spent five interesting and instructive weeks at the beginning of the year visiting the neighbouring colonies of Guinea, Sudan, and Senegal, where he studied the main features of geological interest with special reference to the correlation of the rocks of these countries with those of Sierra Leone. As he was required to act as Chief Inspector of Mines soon after his return to Sierra Leone until his departure on leave at the beginning of July, only a limited amount of geological field work was possible during 1936. Advice was given to the Freetown City Council regarding the augmentation of the water supply of Freetown, and numerous rocks and mineral specimens were identified and reported upon for the mining community.

Digitized by Google

Imperial Institute—Public Exhibition Galleries.

Following the redecoration of the Exhibition Galleries in the latter part of 1935, the re-installation of the exhibits in the Sierra Leone Court was completed in the early part of this year.

New exhibits include specimens of piassava fibre (Sherbro and Sulima grades) together with dressed and dyed fibre and an example of a piassava broom.

Photographs of cotton cloth weaving in Sierra Leone have been prepared and are on show.

Dioramas of the iron-mining and diamond-mining industries are under construction, and are nearing completion. The cases for these have been constructed of cedar and West African mahogany. The charts and graphs, showing the volume of trade, have been revised in accordance with the latest available figures.

Lectures to school parties have been continued, and films of West Africa have been shown in the cinema to schools and the general public.

The distribution of samples of products to applicants under the school specimen scheme has been continued.

During the year, the Institute examined a sample of tobacco representing a type of leaf grown in considerable quantities in the northern chiefdoms of Sierra Leone, submitted by the Department of Agriculture in order to ascertain its value as a source of nicotine for insecticidal purposes. On examination it was found to contain 3·12 per cent of nicotine (expressed on the moisture-free material), a figure comparing favourably with that (0·5 to 3·0 per cent.) normally contained in waste tobacco commonly employed by insecticide manufacturers in the United Kingdom. In view however of the large quantities of such waste which are available, it did not appear likely that it would be remunerative to produce the tobacco for shipment.

The Imperial Institute also carried out investigations and reported on samples of piassava, cashew nuts, chillies, and gorlie seed, and has furnished enquirers with information in respect of the various minerals.

A special exhibition of Empire commercial fibres was held in the Pavilion of the Institute during March and April. Exhibits included samples of grades of Sierra Leone piassava fibre and products manufactured therefrom, also an exhibit of Sierra Leone raffia fibre. The piassava diorama was transferred from the Court to the Pavilion for the period of the exhibition. An exhibition was held at Charing Cross Underground Station, London, from 9th to 29th October, under the title " Peeps at the Colonial Empire."

Digitized by Google

The West African stand was arranged by the Imperial Institute staff, the exhibits comprising groundnuts, oil palm products, cotton, cocoa, piassava and raffia fibres, being arranged on the new " story " lines showing stages from raw material to the finished manufactured product.

APPENDIX.

List of certain Publications obtainable from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, Westminster, London, S.W.1, and from the Government Printer, George Street, Freetown.

Revised Rates for Gazettes and Legislation.	£	s.	d.
Royal Gazette, inclusive of all Supplements ; Annual Subscription, inland	1	5	0
Royal Gazette, inclusive of all Supplements ; Annual Subscription, Overseas	1	10	0

	For current or previous year. s.	d.	*For any prior year.* s.	d.
Royal Gazette, single copies, inclusive of " *Special Supplements* " only		6	1	0
Trade Supplement (postage 1d. extra)		3		6
Legislative Supplements, or separate copies of Ordinances, Rules, &c., not exceeding—				
8 pages		4		8
9–16 ,,		6	1	0
17–32 ,,		9	1	6
33–48 ,,	1	3	2	6
49–64 ,,	1	6	3	0
65–96 ,,	2	0	4	0
Exceeding 96 pages	2	6	5	0
	Including postage.			

The foregoing rates will apply to all Supplements or Legislation already in stock, regardless of any price printed thereon.

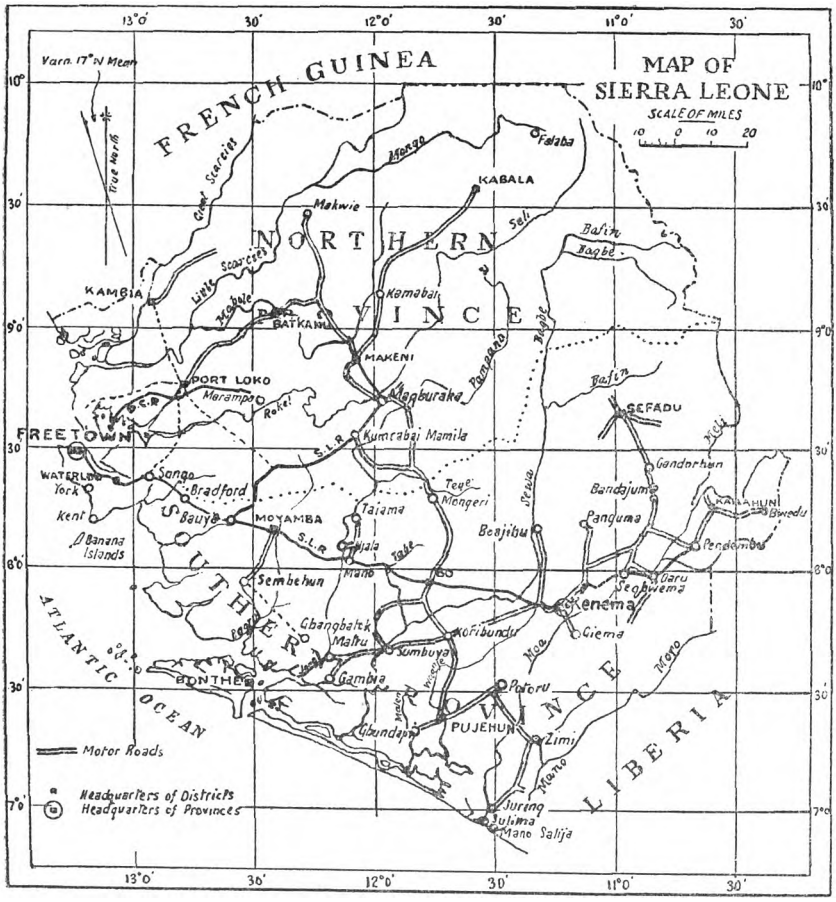
	Price. £	s.	d.	*Postage.* s.	d.
Blue Book, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928 each		12	6	1	4
Blue Book, 1929, 1930, 1933, 1934, 1935 each		12	6	1	2
Legislative Council Debates—No. 1 of any year		1	6		2½
Legislative Council Debates—Subsequent numbers, each			6		2

Digitized by Google

	Price. £ s. d.	Postage. s. d.
Sierra Leone Studies (abridged edition of Nos. 1, 2, 3)	1 0	2
Sierra Leone Studies, Nos. 7–18 and 20, each ...	1 0	2
Handbook of the Temne Language	5 0	3½
Handbook of the Sherbro Language	10 6	3
Handbook on the Tse-tse Fly (Austen)	5 0	6
Bibliography of Sierra Leone, by Sir H. C. Luke, Kt.	8 6	4
Beri-beri and the Freetown Prison	10 6	6
The Birds of Tropical West Africa, Vols. 1 & 4, by D. A. Bannerman	1 2 6	1 0
Report on Potential Rice Lands, by R. R. Glanville	2 6	1½
Census Report, 1931	5 0	6
Mineral Ordinance Revised, 1935	7 6	6
Tide Table, 1937	4	1
Sierra Leone Country Cloths, by Dr. M. C. F. Easmon	1 0	2
Introduction to Geography of Sierra Leone ...	1 4	2
History of Royal West African Frontier Force, by Lieut. R. P. M. Davis	7 6	2½
A Limba-English and English-Limba Dictionary, by Mary Lane Clarke	5 0	4
Crook's History of the Colony of Sierra Leone, Western Africa	1 6	4
Specimen of Languages, by N. W. Thomas ...	4 0	3
Report of the Native Administration to the Protectorate of Sierra Leone, by Mr. J. S. Fenton, O.B.E.	1 6	1
Customs Trade Report, 1935	5 0	5

Digitized by Google

SIERRA LEONE SURVEY



NOTE.—The Headquarters of the Northern Province are at Freetown.

(45529—48) Wt. 2573—3912 625 12/37 P. St. G. 377/7

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps. [Colonial No. 111] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1829

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1828

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

MAURITIUS, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1731 and 1770 respectively (Price 2s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google



AN ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

In this volume an attempt has been made to assemble all the essential facts relating to the economic situation of the Colonial Empire (the Non-Self-Governing Colonies, the Dependencies of certain of those Colonies, the Protectorates, the Protected States in Malaya and Borneo, and the Mandated Territories administered under the authority of H.M. Government in the United Kingdom).

SURVEY FOR 1935.

THE WORK IS DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS.

PART I contains a series of memoranda on the Economic Situation of the Individual Dependencies.

PART II contains a series of memoranda on the products of the Colonial Empire, both those which are produced for Export and those which are produced only for Internal Consumption.

F'cap Folio (Board Covers) 593 pp.

£1 5s. net. By Post £1 5s. 8d.

Obtainable from

H[illegible]RY OFFICE

at the addre[illegible]ort or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1828

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

MAURITIUS, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1731 and 1770 respectively (Price 2s. 0d. each))

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

MAURITIUS

REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF MAURITIUS FOR THE YEAR 1936

CONTENTS

	Page
I.—Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.—Government	5
III.—Population	7
IV.—Health	10
V.—Housing	12
VI.—Production	13
VII.—Commerce	18
VIII.—Wages and Cost of Living	22
IX.—Education and Welfare Institutions	24
X.—Communications and Transport	29
XI.—Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	36
XII.—Public Works	38
XIII.—Justice, Police, and Prisons	41
XIV.—Legislation	44
XV.—Public Finance and Taxation	45
XVI.—Miscellaneous	52
Appendix I.—Ordinances Passed during 1936	54
Appendix II.—List of Local Publications which are of General Interest	54
Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The island of Mauritius is of volcanic origin. It is situated in the South Indian Ocean at about 1,400 miles from the east coast of Africa and lies between 19° 50′ and 20° 35′ S. latitude and between 57° 18′ and 57° 48′ E. longitude. The greatest length from north to south is nearly 39 miles and the widest breadth from east to west is 29 miles. The area of the island is about 716 square miles, exclusive of that of several small islets round the coast which measure about four square miles.

The dependencies comprise a large number of small islands between 230 and 1,200 miles away. The largest, Rodrigues, which lies 350 miles to the north-east of Mauritius, had a population estimated at 9,715 on 31st December, 1936. The estimated population of the lesser dependencies on that date was 1,327.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Satherum
1-20-38
15205

Mauritius is situated just within the tropics and enjoys a climate free from extremes of weather except that tropical cyclones at times cause considerable damage to crops, but rarely to buildings. For a great part of the year south-east trade winds, heavily laden with moisture, blow gently over the island tempering the tropical heat. The rain falls mostly in showers. Particularly in the summer months, December-March, the south-east winds are replaced by the light variable winds of the doldrums, which cause discomfort to Europeans, although the temperatures are not high, whereas in the winter months in the residential districts at altitudes of 1,300 to 1,800 feet the temperature may fall to 50° F. The yearly rainfall varies from 30 inches on parts of the coast to 150 inches in the upland regions.

The Mascarene Archipelago was probably known to Arab navigators at an early date and was no doubt visited later by the Malays who colonized Madagascar in the 15th and 16th centuries.

The Portuguese rediscovered it in 1507. They only used Mauritius as a port of call for repairs and supplies, and let loose pigs, goats, deer, and monkeys. It seems probable that rats were introduced in this period as they were a serious pest to the succeeding Dutch colonists.

The Dutch took possession from 1598 and were employed chiefly in exploiting the ebony. They attempted to cultivate sugar-cane, but were frustrated by rats. Although they denuded the forest of ebony they later added to the economic resources of the island by introducing useful trees, plants, and cattle. Negroes were imported for labour, and, as escape into the forests was easy, bands of runaway slaves called Maroons were formed. The combination of rats and this dangerous population of mixed, but mostly African, origin, uncontrolled by any tribal or political system, proved too much for the Dutch who abandoned the island in 1710.

The French annexed it in 1715, and by 1722 the population, apart from Maroons, amounted to 160 persons, soldiers, colonists, and slaves. Mahé de Labourdonnais was chosen to develop the Colony and arrived in 1735. In order to make the island self-supporting, he introduced manioc and maize from Brazil and promoted the extension of agriculture by introducing products from all parts of the tropical world. He especially encouraged the cultivation of sugar. He substituted animal draught for carriage by slaves, and to ensure an adequate supply of labour he brought slaves from Africa. From an encampment of straw huts he built up Port Louis into a town of public buildings, private houses, stores, shops and barracks. Labourdonnais laid the foundations of modern Mauritius.

Digitized by Google

In 1755, large herds of cattle were brought in from Madagascar. Pierre Poivre, Intendant in 1767, established the cultivation of cloves and nutmegs.

In 1810, when Mauritius became British, the population had grown from 160 to about 80,000, of whom 65,000 were slaves. Sugar was then, as now, the principal product, and when in 1825 the duty of ten shillings a hundredweight, levied on Mauritius sugar entering England (in order to protect the West Indian sugar), was remitted, cane plantations immediately developed to a large extent, fresh land was put under cultivation, roads were opened, and steam power was applied to mills. From 18,000,000 pounds the output of sugar rose to 41,000,000 pounds in 1827, and increased annually afterwards.

On the abolition of slavery, 68,613 slaves were freed, and the colonists received £2,112,632 in compensation.

In 1842, Indian immigration at the rate of 6,000 a year was approved, and this resulted in an entire change of the balance of the population.

After a terrible outbreak of malaria in 1866 the wealthier inhabitants of Port Louis moved to higher parts of the island. As a result the country towns expanded considerably and the roads were improved and extended. The railway, begun in 1859, became very popular. One of the most striking features of the progress made has been the social and economic development of the Indians who to-day own and cultivate more than two-fifths of the whole area under sugar-cane. Besides becoming gardeners and taxi-drivers, many Indians have taken to raising cows, goats, fruits and vegetables, and the supply of these essential foodstuffs is almost entirely in the hands of Indians. The section of the population they have displaced centres more and more in the towns, forming the clerk and artizan class.

From 1902 to 1909 the island suffered from severe financial depression owing to the low price of sugar. Matters were aggravated in 1902 by an outbreak of surra which caused great havoc among the draught animals, and necessitated the introduction of mechanical transport.

A Royal Commission was appointed in 1909 to investigate the resources and administration of the island and reported in 1910.

About 1911 the destructive beetle *Phytalus smithi* was discovered in the sugar-canes and more than 300 millions of these insects are now destroyed every year.

The great rise in the price of sugar which took place during and after the War brought prosperity, and both the Government and the general community were for a time far more prosperous than ever before.

Digitized by Google

As a result a number of important schemes were inaugurated, including the amelioration of sanitary conditions, the improvement of the harbour, the extension and improvement of water-supplies both for domestic purposes and for irrigation, the improvement of the railways, and the extension of education.

Unfortunately, however, from 1921 onwards the price of sugar fell, and the greatly lessened revenues of the Colony had to provide for the maintenance of many works undertaken in the better times. In 1929 the state of the sugar industry was so bad that Sir Francis Watts was appointed, at the Colony's request, to visit the island, and to report on the economic situation. The Home Government was, however, unable to approve his recommendation that a subsidy should be given to sugar to supplement the preference granted on sugar imported into the United Kingdom, though a loan was made to the planters from local funds. Despite this loan, however, and an earlier loan granted in 1929, the condition of the sugar industry at the end of 1930 was extremely serious.

The position became worse in 1931 owing to a cyclone which caused considerable damage to property and reduced the year's output of sugar by about 33 per cent. The Imperial Government guaranteed a loan of £750,000 for planters, house owners, and repairs to Government property, on condition that a Financial Commission should visit Mauritius with a view to devising measures to bring about a balanced budget. The Commission's report was published at the beginning of 1932 and immediate steps were taken to carry out measures of retrenchment and economy. The situation was again critical in 1934 owing to the effect of a severe drought on the sugar crop; but since then the Colony has had the benefit of a substantial crop in two successive years and the general situation and outlook have considerably improved.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government of Mauritius is vested in a Governor with an Executive Council and a Council of Government. The Council of Government was first established in 1825. It consisted of the Governor and four officials. The next year the Constitution was amended and a Council, including unofficial members was introduced. This Constitution provided for a Council of Government composed of certain officers of the Crown and of an equal number of other persons to be taken from the chief landed population and principal merchants of the Colony; seven officials and seven unofficials were accordingly appointed.

The Constitution was again amended in October, 1885. The Council of Government, under the revised Constitution, was

Digitized by Google

composed of the Governor, eight *ex-officio members*, nine members nominated by the Governor and ten members elected by the population: of the latter, two represent the town of Port Louis, the capital of the island, and the remaining eight represent the rural districts. At least one-third of the nominated members were to be persons not holding any public office.

The Constitution was further amended in July, 1933, by fixing at two-thirds the proportion of the nominated members of the Council who are to be unofficials and, although no provision to that effect is made in the Letters Patent, the nominated unofficial members have been allowed a free vote on all occasions. The new Letters Patent, however, provide that the Governor shall have power to enact legislation considered by him to be essential in the interests of good government. Debates in the Council may be either in English or French.

The Constitution of the Executive Council which was hitherto composed of the Governor and four *ex-officio* members was amended at the same time, and the former practice of appointing two unofficial members to the Council was revived.

The number of registered electors on 31st December, 1936, was 9,400. Every male person who is qualified as follows is entitled to be registered as a voter:—

(1) has attained the age of 21 years;

(2) is under no legal incapacity, and is in possession of his civil rights;

(3) is a British subject by birth or naturalization;

(4) has resided in the Colony for three years at least previous to the date of registration, and possesses one of the following qualifications:—

(*a*) is the owner of an immoveable property of the annual value of Rs.300;

(*b*) is paying rent at the rate of at least Rs.25 a month;

(*c*) is the owner of moveable property within the Colony of the value of at least Rs.300;

(*d*) is the husband of a wife, or the eldest son of a widow, possessing any one of the above qualifications;

(*e*) is in receipt of a yearly salary of at least Rs.600 or of a monthly salary of at least Rs.50; and

(*f*) is paying licence duty to the amount of at least Rs.200 a year.

The ordinary duration of the sessions of the Council of Government is eight months, from May to December, and meetings are held on alternate Tuesdays or oftener when necessary. The life of a Council is five years.

Digitized by Google

The town of Port Louis is administered by a Municipality, an institution which dates as far back as 1790. It was then called " Municipalité du Canton de Port Louis " and was instituted, as were other local Municipalities, by the " Assemblée Coloniale ". These institutions are mentioned in the law of the constitution of the Ile de France promulgated by the " Assemblée Coloniale ", on 21st April, 1791. Sixteen prominent men of the town acted as Councillors of the " Municipalité du Canton de Port Louis " and were denominated the " Conseil des Notables ". The " Conseil des Notables " was dissolved in 1792. It was reconstituted at the end of the 18th century under the denomination of the " Conseil des Communes " and was abolished on 10th February, 1820.

The present Municipal Corporation dates from 1850, the first elections taking place at the Masonic Lodge " La Triple Esperance " from 21st to 23rd February in that year. On 24th August, 1925, the Municipal Corporation celebrated the 75th anniversary of its foundation.

The administration of the other principal townships of the Colony, viz., Curepipe, Beau Bassin and Rose Hill, and Quatre Bornes is vested in Boards of Commissioners appointed annually by the Governor. These Boards are empowered to take measures within the prescribed limits of the townships for the making, maintenance, etc., of roads, sewers, bridges, canals, and other works of public utility, for the prevention of fires, and for the proper paving and lighting of the town, etc.

In addition to the Township Boards, District Boards are appointed annually for each district. These Boards are empowered to pass regulations for the making, maintenance, and improvement of branch roads and footpaths, and for the levying of taxes in the extra urban areas.

III.—POPULATION.

The population is divided for statistical purposes into (1) the general population, i.e., Europeans and descendants of Europeans and people of African, Chinese and mixed origins, and (2) the Indian population, i.e., Indian immigrants and their descendants.

The estimated population of the island and its dependencies on the 31st December, 1936, was 410,920, showing an increase of 3,900, the rate of increase being 9·6 per thousand.

The geographical distribution of the population is shown in the following table:—

Digitized by Google

Districts.	Area in square miles.	Census population, 26th April, 1931.			Population on 31st December, 1936.		
		General population.	Indian population.	Total.	General population.	Indian population.	Total.
Port Louis	16½	29,832	24,603	54,435	31,360	24,552	55,912
Pamplemousses	69	6,847	30,000	36,847	6,624	28,843	35,467
Riviere du Rempart	57	5,518	25,274	30,792	5,913	26,402	32,315
Flacq	115	10,438	42,202	52,640	10,783	40,449	51,232
Grand Port	100½	12,484	36,135	48,619	12,971	35,109	48,080
Savanne	94½	6,645	24,456	31,101	6,869	23,899	30,768
Plaines Wilhems	78½	41,866	53,392	95,258	45,802	57,213	103,015
Moka	89	5,522	23,761	29,283	5,875	23,873	29,748
Black River	100	5,437	8,836	14,263	5,470	7,871	13,341
Total—Mauritius	720	124,589	268,649	393,238	131,667	268,211	399,878
Rodrigues	40	8,084	118	8,202	9,475	240	9,715
Minor Dependencies	47	1,354	103	1,457	1,232	95	1,327
Grand Total—Dependencies ...	87	9,438	221	9,659	10,707	335	11,042
GRAND TOTAL—Mauritius and Dependencies	—	134,027	268,870	402,897	142,374	268,546	410,920

Digitized by Google

The preponderance of males in the Indian population and that of females in the general population is shown in the next table.

	Males.	*Females.*	*Total.*
Mauritius—General Population	64,532	67,135	131,667
Indian ,, ...	138,339	129,872	268,211
Rodrigues—General ,, ...	4,627	4,848	9,475
Indian ,, ...	156	84	240
Minor Dependencies—General Population ...	713	519	1,232
Indian ,, ...	71	24	95
Total	208,438	202,482	410,920

The following tables give the number of births, deaths and still births registered in Mauritius during the last three years.

BIRTHS.

	Number of births.			*Rate per 1,000 of population.*		
	1934.	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
General Population ...	4,609	4,498	4,758	36·1	34·9	36·4
Indian ,, ...	8,907	8,748	9,109	33·7	32·9	34·1
Whole Population ...	13,516	13,246	13,867	34·5	33·6	34·9

DEATHS.

	Number of deaths.			*Rate per 1,000 of population.*		
	1934.	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
General Population ...	2,987	2,954	3,039	23·3	22·9	23·3
Indian ,, ...	7,082	7,491	7,461	26·8	28·2	27·9
Whole Population ...	10,069	10,445	10,500	25·7	26·5	26·4

STILL BIRTHS.

	Number of still-births.			*Rate per 100 live births.*		
	1934.	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
General Population ...	282	297	300	6·1	6·6	6·3
Indian ,, ...	1,025	1,004	1,021	11·5	11·5	11·2
Whole Population ...	1,307	1,301	1,321	9·7	9·8	9·5

The number of deaths of infants under one year was 1,973. The infantile mortality rate was 142·3 per thousand live births registered during the year as compared with 139·4 and 129·7 for 1935 and 1934 respectively.

The marriages during the year numbered 1,991 as compared with 1,651 in 1935. The marriage rate or number of persons married to every thousand of the entire population was 10·0 against 8·4 in 1935.

The arrivals exceeded the departures by 244.

Digitized by Google

IV.—HEALTH.

The present constitution of the Medical and Health Department dates back to 1895 when under Ordinance No. 32 of 1894-5 the powers vested in the General Board of Health were transferred to the Director, Medical and Health Department.

The headquarters staff of the Department consists of the Director, the Deputy Director and the clerical and accounting staffs of the correspondence, financial and storekeeping branches.

The administrative unit of Government is the district which is the political unit as well. Every district with the exception of Black River is provided with a hospital for the reception and treatment of the sick poor. Patients from the Black River district are treated in the Victoria Hospital, Quatre Bornes, or the Civil Hospital, Port Louis. The medical and sanitary administration of each of the rural districts is entrusted to a Government Medical Officer who is in charge of the district hospital and dispensaries and who is also the Health Officer for the district. To assist him, he has a number of subordinate officers; dispensers and sanitary officers and the staff necessary for the care of the patients in the hospital. In addition to his medical and sanitary duties he has also statutory duties of a medical or sanitary nature which he carries out on behalf of the Police and Poor Law Departments. The district dispensaries are visited at regular intervals by the Government Medical Officer.

The hospitals of the Colony are divided into two groups:—

(i) General hospitals, namely:—Civil, Victoria and Moka, totalling 626 beds, which are fully equipped for X-ray and major operative work; and

(ii) district hospitals where only medical and midwifery cases are admitted and where minor surgery is carried out to a certain extent.

Patients who apply to the latter hospitals and require special treatment, surgical or other, are conveyed to the nearest general hospital by motor ambulance. A mental hospital and a leper hospital are also administered by the Department.

The general health of the population during 1936 has been reasonably good. There was an exceptionally good crop leading to a consequent increase in the amount of money circulating in the Colony. There has been no scarcity of food and the general economic condition of the people, though low, has not been bad.

The principal diseases affecting the population are hookworm disease and malaria.

Digitized by Google

The prevention of hookworm disease has ceased to be a matter in which the central government can usefully intervene. With the abolition of the system of preparing for agricultural use manure whose chief constituent was human excrement, the widespread infection with hookworm of the canefields ceased. Naturally, some years were required for the cleansing of the soil but it may now be safely presumed that hookworm disease is seldom contracted in the canefields. The problem has become one of personal hygiene, dependent upon a radical change in the personal habits of a very conservative and still ignorant people. The influence of education and propaganda on an agricultural population whose standard of living is definitely low is practically negligible. It is only when a man becomes fairly prosperous that he feels the need to modify his habits according to the new standards of living to which his increased prosperity has raised him. Thus, though the majority of the rural inhabitants have provided their premises with latrines the proper use of which would undoubtedly prevent hookworm infection, they have not yet habituated themselves to their use.

But though the prevention of the disease is now in the ineffectual hands of the rural population, the Government can still institute measures for its control. By the frequent and extensive treatment of the rural population with appropriate drugs the Government ensures that a large percentage of them are periodically released of the infestation to which their blind adherence to custom makes them liable. The hookworm-malaria branch of the Department undertakes mass treatment of the rural population and in this way ensures for those who are willing to take the treatment a certain degree of relief from the consequences of their hygienic shortcomings. Concurrently with the administration of treatment, the staff of the branch hammer home the principles of prevention, but this part of the campaign shows little sign of being effective so long as the general economic level of the population is low. During the year 84,683 treatments were given.

Malaria.—In 1932 the malaria situation in the Colony was reviewed in the light of past colonial experience and of the new information which had become available through the labours of the Malaria Committee of the League of Nations in Europe. As a result of this review it became evident that much energy was being dissipated by the institution of inappropriate measures and the maintenance of old drainage works whose usefulness had disappeared, either on account of their having been established in areas where such treatment was uneconomic or inappropriate or because subsequent events had nullified their effectiveness. It was accordingly decided to apply to the different regions of the Colony the measures which in the light of the new experience were likely to produce the most effective

Digitized by Google

return for the energy expended. In practice this has meant the virtual abandonment of anti-mosquito measures throughout the greater part of the rural areas lying below 600 feet altitude. Here the object of the Government is to make totaquina as widely available as possible so that sufferers may be able to obtain the treatment which they need. In a few populous places old drainage works of known effectiveness are maintained, but no new works are being undertaken in the meantime.

In most of the region lying higher than 600 feet anti-mosquito work is feasible, on account of the density of the population and of the effects of the cool season in restricting to practical numbers the permanent mosquito nurseries in the area. This area has now been the subject of close study for the past three years and it has been found that most of the mosquito nuisances are not such as require extensive permanent drainage works for their abatement. The problem on the central plateau is not the abolition or the treatment of large natural mosquito-breeding places but the abolition of innumerable small nuisances created and maintained by human agency. The area is strewn with gardens and small holdings on each of which there are maintained collections of water in the shape of watering tubs, barrels, tanks or pits. Of these the pits of the market gardens are the worst offenders as they have been repeatedly found to contain larvae of *A. Costalis*. Water receptacles of this kind are quite unnecessary in this area because practically every house or garden has a piped water supply. In fact most of the storage receptacles are filled from the pipe. The hookworm-malaria branch has been fully occupied in attempting to deal with this nuisance, but progress must necessarily be slow. Nevertheless control of such water collections is essential for control of malaria in this locality.

V.—HOUSING.

The housing of the wage-earning population of the Colony may be considered in three categories: (*a*) housing on estates, (*b*) housing in rural areas not estates, and (*c*) housing in towns.

Estate labourers are, for the most part, adequately housed. They are accommodated in lines, or rows of huts, constructed either of stone or of wattle and daub, with roofs more commonly of thatch, but frequently of corrugated iron. Adequate provision is made for the ventilation and lighting of these quarters, but ventilation and lighting appear generally to be disliked by the occupants. At night, every accessible crevice is carefully closed, though the presence of ridge ventilation in many cases assures reasonable change of air in spite of the efforts of the occupants to exclude fresh air from

Digitized by Google

their sleeping apartments. When the dwelling is thatched the problem of assuring adequate ventilation is difficult. The lines must be kept clear of weeds, and all houses are required to have a clear space of at least ten feet round them. Each camp has adequate latrine accommodation and a supply of wholesome water is laid on, though in many cases the labourers prefer to use the polluted water of streams or nearby irrigation channels for their domestic purposes. As a general rule, the lines are not lit at night. Lighting is scarcely necessary as the occupants retire shortly after sunset.

The housing in rural areas other than estates is fairly satisfactory. The Indian labourer can himself with the aid of his friends construct a satisfactory hut. He generally owns the piece of land on which he builds his hut and what is not occupied by the hut is planted with sugar cane or other agricultural produce, while room is also found for a primitive byre or a shelter for goats. The amenities of life are few, and a locality settled by a number of such persons bristles with sanitary problems arising out of poverty. Fortunately, most of them are now on a pipe-line so that their water supply gives little cause for anxiety, though they may have to carry their water several hundred yards from the nearest public fountain.

In the towns and townships conditions vary. There are areas of overcrowding with its consequent insanitary conditions. Too many persons live in one room though the climate is such as to obviate many of the evils attendant upon this practice.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Meteorological Conditions and Sugar Production.

Weather conditions during the year were fairly satisfactory, except in the Northern districts, where a drought was in evidence from March till August. Nothing in the incidence of weather factors justified an expectation of the highest sugar production so far recorded in this Colony.

The total cane reaped approximated 2,547 thousand metric tons, in excess by 45 thousand tons on last year's production. The sucrose content of the cane surpassed all expectations, averaging 13·71, as compared with 13·14 in 1935 and 12·86 in 1934. The average extraction, for the whole Colony, reached 11·79 per cent., as against a previous maximum of 11·25 in 1933. As a result of the association of these two favourable factors, the output of sugar reached the record total of 300·34 thousand metric tons.

Digitized by Google

The following table exhibits the comparative production for the past seven years:—

YIELD OF SUGAR IN THOUSAND METRIC TONS.

Districts.	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1934.*	*1933.*	*1932.*	*1931.*	*1930.*
Pamplemousses and Riviere du Rempart	63·97	69·97	30·13	57·77	62·73	41·81	43·00
Flacq	49·98	44·15	30·87	41·37	35·97	27·91	37·81
Moka	43·42	35·76	29·30	40·08	34·12	20·83	32·10
Plaines Wilhems ...	21·89	20·62	11·54	18·22	17·05	11·64	14·62
Black River ...	12·85	11·28	5·99	8·88	9·06	6·29	9·81
Grand Port ...	56·10	53·38	38·37	50·66	46·66	28·52	46·53
Savanne	52·13	45·34	32·66	44·48	41·63	27·01	37·09
Total ...	300·34	280·50	178·86	261·46	247·22	164·01	220·96

The figure for 1931 evinces a reduction, estimated at 34 per cent., due to a severe cyclone. In 1934, there was a severe drought.

The large output for 1936 is probably the result of a number of different factors operating in the same direction: the high sucrose content, responsible for 12,000 to 15,000 tons of sugar extra, is probably due in part to the cool and sunny weather which obtained during the ripening season and, in part, to a higher percentage of sweet canes reaped (BH 10(12)).

The heavy yields obtained in the Central and Southern districts appear to result from (*a*) increase in the area cultivated, (*b*) improved cane varieties, (*c*) superior cultivation and fertilization, (*d*) enhanced irrigation, (*e*) total absence of cyclones, the whole associated with an excellent start of the crop made in November and December, 1935.

Grades of Sugar.—The proportion of raws was, this year, 77·85 per cent. as against 87·10 per cent. last year; vesous were 21·68 per cent. as against 12·60 per cent. in 1935, while low sugars approximated 0·47 per cent. as compared with 0·30 last year.

Area under Sugar Cane.—At the beginning of 1936 the area under cane was estimated at 139,341 acres, in excess by 1,032 on the corresponding figure for the year previous. Estates with factory cultivated 59,914 acres, estates without factory, 37,697, giving a total estate cultivation of 97,611. The balance of 41,730 acres was cultivated by small planters mostly Indian peasant proprietors.

Number of Factories.—In 1936, two more factories were closed down, the number in operation being reduced to 40. Two more factories will be dismantled in 1937 so that, for the 1937 crop there will be only 38 factories. They numbered 54 in 1921.

Digitized by Google

Varieties of Sugar Cane.—During the year an enquiry was conducted regarding the relative amount of cultivation of BH 10(12) on estates.

The results are as follows:—

Districts.	*Per cent of Total in BH 10 (12).*
Pamplemousses and Riviere du Rempart	32
Flacq	31
Moka	8
Plaines Wilhems	22
Black River	37
Grand Port	21
Savanne	29
Whole Island	26

It would thus appear that over one-fourth of the total estate cultivation or, approximately, 26,000 acres are, at present, under BH 10(12). As the richness of BH 10(12) markedly exceeds that of Tannas while, with favourable weather, the yield in the field of the first variety is generally in excess of that of the second, it would seem that, within the next few years, the Colony's output in sugar may be appreciably increased owing to the extension given to BH 10(12).

Sugar Market.—The market for sugar remained debased throughout the greater part of the year. By 31st December, the whole production had been disposed of at an average price approximating to Rs.5.50 net per 50 kilos on a basis of 99° of polarization and including the benefit of extra Colonial preference.

Disposal of the 1935-6 *Crop and Local Sugar Consumption.*—The total sugar exported from 1st August, 1935, to 31st July, 1936, was 273,898·6 metric tons distributed as follows:—

	Metric tons.
Great Britain	241,776·6
Canada	31,531·3
Hong Kong	355·6
Other places	235·1
Total	273,898·6

The exportation for the 1936-7 crop, up to December, 1936, was as follows:—

	Metric tons.
Great Britain	116,907·0
Canada	16,529·8
Other places	114·9
Total	133,551·7

Digitized by Google

The local consumption of sugar for 1935-6 was 9,327 metric tons, as compared with 11,211 for the year previous and 10,381 for 1933-4.

Sugar Machinery.—Machinery to the value of Rs.589,449 was imported during the year as against Rs.438,588 in 1935. Tramway material to the value of Rs.328,219 was imported as compared with Rs.194,666 the year previous.

Fertilizers.—The importation of chemical fertilizers in 1936 totalled 21,588 metric tons at Rs.2,078,332 as compared with 15,590 metric tons in 1935 valued at Rs.1,754,425.

Pests and Diseases of the Sugar Cane.—Conditions during the year were practically the same as during the year previous. Experiments have been started regarding the effect of hand collection of adults *Phytalus smithi* versus non collection. New parasites of the beetle have been introduced from Madagascar and Java and Porto Rico.

Minor Agricultural Industries.

Tobacco.—The area cultivated in 1936 was increased to 661 acres. Disease was little in evidence but weather conditions were not, upon the whole, entirely satisfactory.

The amount of leaf purchased by the warehouse during the year was 375,923 kilos of a value of Rs.475,326, as compared with 275,710 kilos and Rs.268,321 in 1935.

Fibre.—Conditions in 1936 were somewhat better. The total export was 1,213·8 metric tons as against 446 in 1935. Consideration is being given to the best means of furthering the interests of the fibre industry and, in particular, to the possibility of reopening the bag factory.

Pineapple.—Prospects are somewhat better as regards this industry. The Colonial Development Fund has sanctioned an advance of £2,000 to growers and a committee has been appointed for the control of the fund. The same fund has donated £1,000 for experiments in pineapple cultivation by the Department of Agriculture.

During the year 1935-36 the canning factory turned out 2,960 cases of canned fruit of a net total weight of 66,600 kilos.

Tea.—Progress is being maintained in this industry. The total production of the two principal tea gardens reached 31,250 kilos in 1936.

Coconut Industry.—The export of copra-produce of the dependencies of Mauritius amounted during the year to 1,331·5 tons valued at Rs.229,884 as against 1,746 tons, valued at Rs.217,985 in 1935. The export of coconut oil during the year was 7,113 litres valued at Rs.2,686.

Digitized by Google

Alcohol.—The total quantity of alcohol distilled for human consumption amounted to 651,727 litres as against 539,361 the year previous. The quantity distilled for industrial purposes was 453,820 litres as against 360,670 in 1935. The exportation of rum during the year was 39,619 litres, valued at Rs.8,776 as against 18,155 litres valued at Rs.5,299 in 1935.

Veterinary and Livestock.—Interest in cattle breeding and management was principally focused on the possibility of producing cattle for meat. The question of improving the quality of local pastures was investigated and Professor Lindsay Robb of Pretoria University, South Africa, has furnished a full report on this question.

At the beginning of the year, horned cattle on estates totalled 14,195 and the number of sheep was 1,961. Cattle importation from Madagascar amounted to 5,767 valued at Rs.362,000.

The question of cattle raising in certain dependencies of Mauritius received attention during the year and prospects are considered generally satisfactory. As regards sheep breeding, the introduction of black head Persian rams has met with great appreciation on the part of Mauritius breeders.

The pig industry has also received attention and some good quality boars have been introduced.

Other Manufacturing Industries.

There was no decline in the subsidiary industries during the year. The number of engineering establishments remained at 47, while bakeries rose to 75. The number of lime kilns licensed in 1936 was 32 and of cabinet makers 161. There were four docks (landing etc.), four distilleries, three hydro-electrical plants, eight cigarette factories, one match factory, four salt making establishments affording employment in all to about 2,000 people.

In addition, leather tanning, boot and shoe making, aerated water works, ice making, vinegar making, biscuit and jams etc., provided means of work to a large number of people and went some way towards rendering the Colony more self supporting.

Fisheries.

In 1926 the question of Fishery Control in Mauritius was thoroughly investigated by Mr. J. Hornell, F.L.S.,F.R.A.I., formerly Director of Fisheries in Madras, and his recommendations in the printed report on the subject have formed the basis of the work of the local Fisheries Advisory Committee formed in 1927. Special consideration has been given to the questions of control of net fishing, improvement of local methods of fish-curing, protection of the local dried fish trade

Digitized by Google

against the imported article, and ensuring a plentiful supply of cheap fish in the markets without prejudice to the working fishermen. Careful study of the whole question led the Committee to recommend a suspension of the use of large nets in 1934 and this was approved and has been in force since 1st October of that year. The results have shown clearly that the experiment has been justified and steps are being taken to make the prohibition permanent.

The lagoons, between the coral reef surrounding the Island and the beach, are normally full of excellent fish of many varieties which are taken in large quantities by means of basket traps, cast net and line and in the open sea outside the reefs large fish can be taken at practically all times of the year by trolling or with deep sea lines.

All professional fishing is done from small sailing craft known as " peniches " and " pirogues " which are well built and sea-worthy but the business side of the industry is quite undeveloped owing to local preference for old-fashioned methods which ought to be replaced. Amateur fishermen are well supplied with locally built sea going motor boats which enable them to reach the remarkable fishing grounds round the rocky islets lying from two to fifteen miles off the northern coast of the Colony where good sport is certain at almost all seasons.

Fish-curing industries are established at Rodrigues and St. Brandon Islands and produce a considerable quantity of what is one of the staple foods of the poorer classes but the dried fish of South Africa and India still commands a large sale and is imported in increasing quantities at a very low price.

River fishing is confined to spinning for carp and chite—a fish very like a mullet—but fishing rights are strictly preserved and suitable stretches of water are scarce.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The value of the external trade of the Colony in Merchandise for the year 1936 was Rs.67,867,395, of which Rs.30,218,589 represented Imports and Rs.37,648,806 Exports. The balance in favour of Exports was therefore Rs.7,430,217. In comparison to that of recent years, the trade balance may be regarded as satisfactory. Economic conditions, on the whole, showed improvement over the preceding year.

The total values of Imports and Exports for the last five years were:—

	Imports. *Rupees (c.i.f.).*	*Exports.* *Rupees (f.o.b.).*
1936	30,218,589	37,648,806*
1935	29,891,160	28,649,255
1934	29,680,346	26,136,140
1933	29,035,237	32,176,743
1932	26,992,760	27,662,851

* Including the estimated value of sugar quota certificates, not included in previous year's figures.

Digitized by Google

The declared value of Exports in 1936 includes the value of sugar quota certificates which may be estimated at Rs.4,858,000 for the year.

Imports of Merchandise.

Mauritius produces barely one-tenth of the foodstuffs required for its inhabitants and imports practically all articles of food and drink, sugar excepted, and manufactured goods of all descriptions.

Rice, which is the staple food of the people, represented about 20 per cent. of the total imports in 1936, against 22 per cent. in 1935. The fall in the importation of rice is due, mainly, to the fact that an unusually large quantity was received in the closing months of 1935.

There was a decline in the importation of other essential foodstuffs chiefly wheat, flour, dholl, lentils, edible oils, with a corresponding rise in the importation of manufactured goods.

The proportion of food, drink and tobacco to manufactured articles imported is shown below:—

	Food, drink, and tobacco. Rs.	*Manufactured articles.* Rs.	*Total imports including other articles.* Rs.
1936	11,616,296	16,250,800	30,218,589
1935	12,900,047	14,745,275	29,891,160

Increases are noted mainly in earthenware and glassware, machinery and millwork, metals and manufactures thereof, petroleum lamp oil, petroleum motor spirits and chemicals for the preparation of manures.

The quota allotted in respect of Japanese cotton and artificial silk piece goods was the same as for the previous year. However, the trade in these goods with the United Kingdom and India showed a decrease of 20 per cent. and 12 per cent. respectively in comparison with last year's importations.

Japan continues to maintain her position with respect to woollen piece goods upon which no restriction has as yet been imposed.

In 1935, an enactment, which came into force on the 1st January, 1936, was passed by the Legislative Council with a view to ensuring an additional measure of control over the importation of quota cotton and artificial silk textiles (piece goods) from the United Kingdom.

A certificate of origin certifying that the goods have been spun, woven and finished in the United Kingdom, endorsed by certain Chambers of Commerce, must henceforth be produced in respect of importations of such goods from the United Kingdom.

Previous to 1932 the greater proportion of manufactured tobacco and cigarettes consumed locally was imported, but, as a result of the increase of customs duties combined with technical

Digitized by Google

advice and control by the Agricultural Department, importations have decreased and a greater proportion of the tobacco consumed is now produced in the Island.

The trade returns indicate a similar trend for wines, matches, salt and maize.

The trade in edible oils which was formerly chiefly with India and China now shows an increase in favour of the United Kingom, owing to the superior quality of the soya oil there manufactured.

In addition to the above, the Colony is also a large importer of chemical fertilizers for the cane fields, coal and motor spirits for rail and motor transport; machinery for sugar estates; vehicles of all descriptions; bullocks for food and gunny bags for packing sugar.

Other considerable items of importation are wearing apparel, drugs, timber, provisions, etc.

The following table shows some of the principal articles imported during the last two years:—

		Quantity.		*Value in Rupees (c.i.f.).*	
		1936.	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1935.*
Rice...	kilos ...	54,482,152	60,589,845	6,035,237	6,585,730
Flour	,, ...	8,103,027	9,625,013	1,017,554	1,000,061
Coals	,, ...	40,261,876	36,861,763	463,615	439,048
Timber		—	—	464,801	260,489
Apparel		—	—	621,274	524,350
Gunny bags ...	number	4,004,610	3,251,800	1,129,275	974,600
Cotton, grey ...	metres...	1,539,084	4,702,085	265,361	862,859
,, white ...	,,	1,017,102		202,024	
,, coloured ...	,,	6,289,553	5,749,678	1,335,413	1,374,683
Silk (including artificial silk).		—	—	487,880	541,430
Machinery and millwork.		—	—	693,339	575,964
Motor-cars	number	205	291	446,828	641,167
Petrol					
Lamp oil... ...	hectolitres	27,823	23,950	323,137	296,012
" Motor spirits "		66,163	54,170	872,612	696,481
Saltpetre	kilos ...	3,760,273	4,846,508	582,222	694,957
Sulphate of ammonia	,, ...	13,689,573	9,819,471	1,238,995	885,677
Soap, common ...	,, ...	1,558,929	1,171,323	530,669	456,343
Metals (iron and steel.		—	—	1,081,718	826,175
Metals (non-ferrous)		—	—	242,327	220,220

Exports of Merchandise.

Mauritius is almost entirely dependent on one industry—the sugar industry—and so long as efforts made to develop other industries do not meet with success the economic position will continue to be more or less insecure, especially on account of cyclones. The sugar exports in 1936 represented about 98 per

Digitized by Google

cent. of the domestic exports. For the last two years they were:—

	Metric tons.	Value in Rupees. f.o.b.
1936	279,194	31,149,370*
1935	232,202	26,895,460

* Values of sugar quota certificates not included.

All sugar exported is consigned to the United Kingdom or Canada. Exports in 1936 were:—

	Tons.	Value in Rupees. f.o.b.
United Kingdom ...	262,351	29,462,107†
Canada	16,530	1,673,610
Hong Kong	305	12,624
Straits Settlements ...	8	1,029

† Values of sugar quota certificates not included.

Other exports are comparatively insignificant in value. They are chiefly:—aloe fibre (1,291 tons valued Rs.236,822); rum (39,159 litres valued Rs.8,776) copra and poonac (1,332 tons valued Rs.229,884); coconut oil (7,113 litres valued Rs.2,686).

Domestic Exports in the year amounted to Rs.31,842,308; Re-exports Rs.948,498.

The Re-exports are chiefly lentils, gunny bags, salted fish, old metals, cinema films consigned to the neighbouring Islands of Bourbon and Madagascar and also to the Union of South Africa, Japan and India.

Apart from the trade in merchandise, bullion and specie were imported and exported to the total value of Rs.50,000 and Rs.159,185 respectively in 1936 against Rs.36,866 and Rs.1,275,622 in 1935.

Distribution of Imports.

The import trade is mainly from the United Kingdom (31·65 per cent.) and India (33·04 per cent.), in 1936. The United Kingdom is the source of most of the manufactured articles and India of grain, spices and gunny bags.

Other sources of supply are Australia (4·28 per cent.); Japan (3·92 per cent.); France (3·62 per cent.) and the United States of America (3·17 per cent.).

Australia is the principal source of supply for wheat, flour and butter. Importations from Japan and United States of America increased slightly during the year.

The United States of America and the Dutch East Indies are the principal sources of petroleum products.

Digitized by Google

Course of Prices of Imports.

In 1936 there was a rise in the price of flour in comparison with the year previous. The price of rice and the other essential foodstuffs, however, remained unchanged.

Development of Empire Trade.

Since 1924 the Colony has accorded preference to the United Kingdom goods. This preferential tariff was extended from year to year and assumed, in 1933, an Empire character. As from 1934, quotas were imposed on artificial silk and cotton piece-goods and as a result both the United Kingdom and India have benefited.

The value of the import trade from the British Empire, in 1936, was Rs.22,802,528 against Rs.23,460,095 in 1935, while in respect of foreign countries it increased from Rs.358,009 in 1935 to Rs.7,375,447 in 1936. This is due to larger foreign importations of electric goods and apparatus, wearing apparel, glassware, metals, motor spirts, machinery.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

No change of importance occurred during the year. Labourers under monthly contract received, in cash Rs.10 per month, with rations, lodgings, medical attendance, etc., in all equivalent to about Rs.20 per month.

Male day labourers received R.0.50 to R.0.60 per daily task, during the intercrop season but, during harvest time, wages are about double these figures. Females, of whom a considerable number are employed, receive generally half the wages of males.

Remuneration for piece work was, on the average, as follows:—

	Per acre. *Rs.*
Clearing land	30–40
Digging cane holes	18–20
Manuring	15
Weeding	8
Cutting canes (20 tons/acre)	10–15

The wages of artizans were Rs.1 to 2 per day according to nature of work, while those paid monthly received Rs.35 to Rs.75 according to circumstances.

Domestic servants, especially in the Central and most populous districts, are easy to procure but well-trained servants are not so numerous on the market. Butlers, cooks, gardeners and other servants receive between Rs.10 and Rs.35 per month. Chauffeurs, on the average get Rs.35 per month.

Digitized by Google

No change in the rates of salaries occurred in 1935. The following table indicates the ruling rates:—

	Rs. per annum.
Managers of sugar estates and senior Government officials	8,000–13,000
Government, bank and commercial clerks (higher grade)	4,000– 7,000
Clerks and employees on sugar estates...	1,500– 3,000
Junior clerks and employees	720– 1,500

The cost of living in 1936 upon the whole decreased appreciably. Rice, the staple food of the population, was indexed at 74 during the first quarter and at 66 during the last (100 in 1914, as base). Other grains rose from 79 to 88. Flour remained about 60 during the first three quarters but rose to 120 during the last. Oils and fats were steady about 77 while tea and coffee decreased from 90 to 75. Articles of clothing decreased from 151 in the first quarter to 109 in the last.

The quarterly weighted index for the total cost of living (28 items) in 1936 was as follows (100 being the Index for 1914):—

First quarter	116·7
Second ,, ...	121·7
Third ,, ...	111·6
Fourth ,, ...	95·9

The mean for the year was 111·5 as compared with 115·9 in 1935. As regards the labouring classes, the following table indicates the purchasing power of wages, in terms of rice, since 1927:—

Year.	*Average daily wages of male labourer.*	*Average price of fair quality rice per lb.*	*Purchasing power of wages expressed in lb. of rice.*
	Rs.	*Rs.*	*lb.*
1927	1·25	0·13	9½
1928	1·25	0·10	12½
1929	1·00	0·10	10
1930	0·80	0·09	9
1931	0·75	0·08	9
1932	0·45	0·05½	8
1933	0·45	0·06	7½
1934	0·45	0·06	7½
1935	0·55	0·07	8
1936	0·55	0·06	9

The official index numbers do not take into consideration the improved standard of living since 1914, while such items as housing, lighting, tuition of children, taxes, etc., which have either not been reduced or else, actually increased. Consequently, the cost of living for Europeans and people living on the European standard is, generally, higher than the official index would lead one to suppose.

Digitized by Google

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

An Ordinance, enacted by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Council of Government, was introduced on the 18th of September, 1934, to amend and consolidate the Law on Education. It provides for the establishment of a Royal College Department and a Schools Department. The Regulations for the management of Government and Aided Primary Schools as well as Aided Secondary Schools are embodied in the Education Code.

Primary.—Primary Education is not compulsory, but it is given free through Government and State-aided schools which are open to all children of the Colony. The following table shows the number of primary schools, the number of pupils on roll, and the staff of teachers during the year 1936:—

Schools.	*No. of Institutions.*	*No. of Teachers.*	*No. of Pupils on roll.*	*No. of Pupils in average attendance.*
Government ...	50	393	15,192	10,987
Aided	77	659	24,774	17,837
Total ...	127	1,052	39,966	28,824

State-aided schools are under the control of a Manager, and the Government contribution includes the salaries of the teachers together with recurrent grants to meet part of the expenditure on maintenance of school buildings and furniture.

Pupils must be at least five years old and must have been successfully vaccinated in order to be allowed admission to a primary school; when they are under five they undergo preliminary training before being promoted to the lowest form.

The curriculum of studies includes the teaching of English, French, and arithmetic. In the higher classes elementary history and geography are taught and girls study needlework. Regular instruction is also given in physical drill, nature study, hygiene and elementary principles in agriculture.

There are six primary school standards or classes, viz.:—

Standard I with pupils from 5 to 6 years of age.
Standard II with pupils from 6 to 7 years of age.
Standard III with pupils from 7 to 8 years of age.
Standard IV with pupils from 8 to 10 years of age.
Standard V with pupils from 9 to 11 years of age
Standard VI with pupils from 10 to 12 years of age.

There are no fixed age limits for the different standards but no pupil may be entered on the attendance register who is under five years of age, and no pupil may be retained on the register after the annual examination which follows his or her fourteenth birthday, exception being made for pupils following the scholarship classes.

Digitized by Google

Examinations which were formerly held for all the classes are now limited to Standards V and VI. Experience has shown that the quality of the work put in, now that examinations have been restricted to the higher classes, is of a higher standard than it used to be. Much however is left to be done on this line and a definite scheme is being introduced for the benefit of the lower classes. The advantage gained by the primary schools through the methods of teaching introduced is positively proved by examination results.

Fourteen apprenticeships are awarded annually to primary school pupils to encourage the study of needlework and handicraft. Needlework apprenticeships which were formerly restricted to Government or aided primary school pupils, are now open to outsiders. The object in view was to encourage competition on this line but, unfortunately the result is far from being satisfactory. There is a noticeable abstention from the handicraft examinations, and the reason for this may be ascribable to the undoubted aversion professed for manual work of any kind. Twenty-six scholarships and exhibitions tenable at the secondary schools are awarded every year, through competitive examinations, to the best pupils attending primary schools.

It is interesting to note that a high percentage of candidates winning the English scholarships are junior scholars from the primary schools.

There are 30 gardens attached to the primary schools and they are cultivated by the pupils of Standards III to VI. These gardens are regularly inspected by officers of the Agricultural Department who give advice as to proper cultivation.

Secondary.—There are two categories of secondary schools, viz: (1) Secondary aided schools, which are managed privately but are under Government control, and (2) the Royal College and the Royal College School which are managed by the Government.

(1) *Secondary aided schools.*—Government grants to secondary aided schools are assessed with reference to attendance and efficiency, as tested by inspection and examination, and not, as in the case of primary aided schools with reference to maintenance and salary charges.

The following table shows the number of institutions, the number of pupils on roll and in average attendance, and the staff of teachers during the year 1936:—

Schools.	*No. of Institutions.*	*No. of Teachers.*	*No. of Pupils on roll.*	*No. of Pupils in average attendance.*
Aided	9	134	1,599	1,406

Digitized by Google

These schools provide not only for elementary education such as is given in primary schools, but also for higher education leading up to the Cambridge School Certificate and the London Matriculation.

The curriculum of studies includes the teaching of English, French, mathematics, needlework (for girls), hygiene, history, and geography. In addition to these, drawing and music are taught on a more moderate scale.

These schools are visited periodically by the Superintendent of Schools, who examines the lower forms. No advantage is gained from these examinations but it helps classification in view of prizes awarded for general proficiency. The middle and higher forms are examined partly by local examiners and partly through examinations conducted by the Syndicate of the University of Cambridge.

Working hours in both primary and secondary schools, extend as a general rule, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. no provision being made for evening classes.

(2) *Royal College.*—The Royal College is a Government school for the secondary and higher education of boys up to a standard equivalent to that of the Higher Certificate examinations conducted by Oxford and Cambridge Universities. It comprises two schools under the management of the Rector, the Royal College proper in Curepipe and the Royal College School in Port Louis, where pupils who live in or near the capital are educated on the same lines as in Curepipe up to School Certificate Standard. At the Royal College the teaching staff consists of the Rector, twelve Masters with degrees in Honours at British Universities, eleven Assistant Masters appointed locally, and a Physical Training and Gymnastic Instructor (who also attends once weekly at the school to take classes); and at the Royal College School, of the Head-master, two Masters and nine Assistant Masters. Assistant Masters are encouraged to take the B.A. and B.Sc. examinations of London University. The College has well-equipped libraries and chemical, physical, and biological laboratories; almost as many pupils follow classical as scientific studies. The subjects taught are English, French, mathematics, Latin, Greek, chemistry, physics, biology, geography and history; and classes are held during school hours in physical training and gymnastics. The pupils are drawn from all classes and races in the Colony, and range in age from 10 to 20 years. The fees are from Rs.96 to Rs.192 per annum, and pupils may travel at quarter rate on the Government railways. Admission to the Royal College is conditional upon passing an entrance examination or winning one of the 20 annual Primary Schools Scholarships and Exhibitions or one of the two Secondary

Digitized by Google

Schools Scholarships awarded annually, or one of the eight class scholarships and exhibitions, which are competed for annually, and are open to all boys in the Colony. Six further class scholarships and exhibitions are competed for annually by Royal College pupils. These 36 scholarships and exhibitions are tenable at the Royal College, and entitle the holders to free tuition, free railway travelling to and from College, and also to the purchase at half price of books and school requisities, for a period of three years except the primary schools awards, which carry these privileges for the whole period of the pupil's college education.

Two scholarships one on the Classical and one on the Modern Side, of the present value of £1,200 each (with first-class passage to and from England) tenable for four or five years at a British University or any other approved place of education in the United Kingdom are also awarded annually. Besides the winners of these two scholarships, a few boys whose parents can afford it go to England or France to study for a profession, usually Medicine or Law, and almost always return to Mauritius to practise. Of the remaining pupils the majority on leaving the College find employment in the island.

The boys receive a training in classical and scientific subjects. Specialization begins at the Entrance class, and the division into modern and classical sides becomes complete in the Upper Middle class. At the School, pupils may undergo commercial training in place of classics or science.

Classes are held between 9.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. on five days weekly. In addition to the ordinary classes there are Saturday extension classes where candidates for Pharmaceutical Diplomas and other public science examinations are helped in their studies. The number of pupils on the roll of the Royal College in January, 1935, was 325, and of the School, 156. The average attendance at the College was 273 and at the School, 124. (The number of College pupils on the roll in May, 1935, after the publication of the School Certificate results, was 307.) One hundred and one pupils sat in December, 1934, for the Cambridge School Certificate, of whom 48 obtained certificates. In May, 1935, the number of pupils who had passed this examination and proceeded to the highest class of the College was 43.

Besides the regular Physical Training Classes encouragement is given to rugby and association football, hockey, boxing and gymnastics and athletics, in which, although by no means all the boys join, the standard of proficiency is high. As the pupils are all day-boys it is difficult to obtain much support for other social activities, but a school magazine is published thrice yearly.

Digitized by Google

Welfare Institutions.

There are six Roman Catholic infirmaries for men and women, and two orphanages for children under the management of Sisters of Mercy; also an orphanage for boys and one for girls under the control and management of the Church of England, and one " home " for men and women under the management of the Church of Scotland. These institutions receive from the Government a maintenance fee for each pauper maintained therein.

Under Ordinance No. 44 of 1932, subsequently amended by Ordinance No. 21 of 1934, a home, styled the Austin Wilson Home, has been instituted and incorporated to provide accommodation and subsistence for aged gentlefolk. The funds for the establishment of this home have been generously contributed by Mr. A. J. Wilson in memory of his son, the late Austin Wilson.

A Mohammedan orphanage was also established in Port Louis in 1932 for the maintenance and education of orphans of the Mohammedan creed. Funds for running the institution are obtained from voluntary subscriptions among the Mohammedans.

Outdoor assistance to paupers was granted in cash by the Poor Law Department during the year.

Several private religious societies for the distribution of assistance in food and medical care are also in existence. The Société Francaise d'Assistance chiefly assists French nationals.

The Child Welfare Committee and the Oeuvre Pasteur de la Goutte de Lait, two philanthrophic Institutions in receipt of Government grants, deal especially with expectant and nursing mothers and their babies.

The Workmen Compensation Ordinance provides for the grant of compensation by employers to workmen who are injured in the course of their work.

Recreation, Music, Art and Drama.

Association football is the most popular form of sport. Golf, tennis, cricket, hockey and rugby football are played mostly by the wealthier classes. The Mauritius Turf Club and the Mauritius Jockey Club hold race meetings from May to September at the Champ de Mars in Port Louis and at Floreal in the district of Plaines Wilhems; and regattas are held by the Yacht clubs of Mahebourg and Tombeau Bay. " La Chasse " or the shooting of driven deer is a favourite sport of Mauritius. The season is from June to the beginning of September.

There are several flourishing companies of Girl Guides and Brownies; the latter are known locally as Blue Birds. The Boy

Digitized by Google

Scouts have not been so successful as the Girl Guides, but efforts are being made to encourage the movement.

There is not much encouragement for any of the arts. Music is fostered principally by the parish churches whose amateur singers frequently give concerts. The Christian Brothers also provide musical training, and apart from the Police Band, which consists of a bandmaster and 30 bandsmen, a band styled the " Alliance Musicale " and comprising about 25 units was established in 1933.

The Municipality of Port Louis has instituted a drawing class, practically the only encouragement to local talent. The Institute has a collection of pictures presented by Mr. Rochecouste but there is no other art gallery.

Occasional dramatic performances are given by amateurs, but no permanent society has been formed. In better times the Municipality of Port Louis subsidizes a theatrical company from France, which plays in the theatre at Port Louis. The Chinese have their own theatre in the town, to which companies come from China when conditions are prosperous.

There exists a Royal Society of Arts and Sciences which was founded in 1829 under the title of Société d'Histoire Naturelle and was granted a Royal Charter in 1846. It interests itself in most branches of science and arts, especially those relating to questions of agriculture and the natural history of the Colony. The Society was incorporated with the Mauritius Institute in 1906 and its library has been transferred to the Institute.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads and Road Transport.

The Colony is well served with 500 miles of main roads maintained by Government and 188 miles of branch roads maintained by the District Boards. All roads are metalled and 165 miles of the main roads have been covered with bitumen.

The excellent roads of Mauritius are a source of constant surprise and admiration to all visitors to the Colony who are in a position to draw comparisons between Mauritius and other outlying posts of the Empire. All the principal roads are tarred and a systematic policy of widening, grading and reducing curves has been pursued for some years with the result that the numerous places of beauty and interest in the Colony can be reached quickly and in comfort by tourists and visitors.

At the end of the year there were 2,831 motor vehicles in use classified as follows:—

Private cars	1,743
Taxi cabs	364
Lorries	368
Motor cycles	218
Omnibuses	138

Digitized by Google

Importations of motor vehicles during the year totalled 332 of which 272 were British made.

Taxi Cabs for hire in Port Louis and the principal towns are of modern type and are kept in excellent condition as regards safety and cleanliness and the charges for hire are reasonable—viz. R.0.20 per mile for short distance and special rates for long journeys or by the day. There is an excellent bus service on the 15 miles of main road from Port Louis to Curepipe and many subsidiary lines of less importance which radiate from the main system to every town and village in the Colony. The fares vary from 2 to 5 cents per mile and buses on the principal routes are well patronized and maintained in excellent condition for the safety and comfort of passengers. The retail price of petrol is normally Rs.11.00 per eight-gallon case, which is equivalent to about 2s. 1d. per gallon.

The annual tax payable in respect of motor vehicles is Rs.4 per horse-power in respect of motor cycles and Rs.5 per horse-power in respect of other classes of vehicles. Lorries pay an additional tax of Rs.40 per ton gross weight and motor buses a licence duty varying from Rs.200 to Rs.500 per annum in accordance with their seating capacity. Motor lorries plying for hire pay a further licence of Rs.200 per annum. Motor Cabs pay a licence duty of Rs.30 per annum and the cost of a driving licence is Rs.5 a year.

Cars of visitors are subject to a tax at the rate of Rs.5 a month.

Railways.

The Mauritius Government Railways comprise 110 miles of main line with 45½ miles of siding and station lay-outs of British standard 4 feet 8½ inch gauge, and 13½ miles of 75 cm. gauge track known as the Bois Cheri Light Railway. The exceptionally heavy gradient, much of it being 1 in 26, makes the operation of the Railways exceptional, restricting speed of the passenger service and limiting the weight of goods trains.

From the terminal at Port Louis, the most important section, the Midland line rises to 1,800 feet on its way to Mahebourg, the old port on the south-east coast of the island, 35¼ miles distant. A branch, 11 miles long, from this line, Rose Belle serves the fishing hamlet of Souillac. The North line, 33½ miles long, is fairly level and runs from Port Louis passing through the coastal districts to the little village of Grand River South-East, on the east coast. The Moka branch from Rose Hill, on the Middle line, 950 feet above sea-level, to Montagne Blanche, is 14¾ miles long and rises on this length to 1,500 feet. Tamarin and the Black River district are served by a branch off the Midland line at Richelieu, 12½ miles long, for goods traffic only. The Montagne Longue branch from Terre Rouge on the North line, is 3½ miles long, and in common with the Black River line has no heavy gradients.

Digitized by Google

Particulars of revenue and expenditure for five financial years are given below:—

Revenue.

	1931–32.	*1932–33.*	*1933–34.*	*1934–35.*	*1935–36.*	*Increase or Decrease of 1935–36 over 1934–35.*
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Passengers... ...	434,325	419,181	524,818	510,728	466,307	— 44,421
Parcels	63,466	62,163	65,776	61,019	63,515	+ 2,496
General Goods ...	817,077	1,174,046	1,255,729	928,850	1,288,520	+ 359,670
Miscellaneous ...	70,875	57,412	53,809	52,102	52,886	+ 784
Net Revenue ...	187,938	63,554	36,738	43,809	47,204	+ 3,395
Total ...	1,573,681	1,776,356	1,936,870	1,596,508	1,918,432	+ 321,924
Goods Tonnage ...	254,139	362,642	385,541	279,646	422,811	

Expenditure.

	1931–32.	*1932–33.*	*1933–34.*	*1934–35.*	*1935–36*	*Increase or Decrease of 1935–36 over 1934–35.*
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Working expenditure including renewals.	1,945,113	1,516,631	1,606,730	1,808,354	1,877,048	+ 68,694
Net revenue expenditure.	642,785	260,955	190,308	223,162	189,103	— 34,059
Total ...	2,587,898	1,777,586	1,797,038	2,031,516	2,066,151	+ 34,635
Capital Expenditure.	20,226	304	—	26	11,604	+ 11,578
	2,608,124	1,777,890	1,797,038	2,031,542	2,077,755	+ 46,213

As a contrast with last year, the 1935-6 sugar crop was a record one, viz., 281,000 tons, and the financial results are reflected in the above statement.

In spite of the increased revenue from sugar, some of the more favourably placed estates have adopted Diesel motor lorries to transport their sugars to Port Louis, the effect of which would be to raise the rail transport costs to those factories less favourably situated for road access. Measures have therefore been placed before the Legislature to preserve all sugar traffic for the railway, the latter being at present in a general sense essential for the due transport of the crop. Passenger traffic continues to diminish and, although the early promise of reduced fares has not been fulfilled, there is as yet no urgency to curtail the passenger service. There can be no doubt however that road travel is increasing, due to the flexibility of the bus services and the size and comfort of the buses, which are not regulated by time tables and not tied down to fixed fares. In consequence the existing Rs.450,000 to Rs.500,000 of passenger revenue is in jeopardy.

Digitized by Google

Tramways.

Better economic conditions for the sugar industry resulted in a perceptible extension of tramways on estates, notwithstanding the greater extension of motor traffic. In 1936, the total extent of rail on estates approximated to 1,770 kilometres as against 1,680 in 1935. There were 220 locomotives and about 7,400 trucks. Farm tractors numbered 72 and motor lorries 99.

Posts, Telegraphs and Wireless.

The inland postal service is fairly well developed, the usual facilities in regard to correspondence, parcels and remittances being available. The island is served by 52 offices and postal agencies of which 47 are also telegraph offices. With the exception of a few outposts in outlying localities, the offices are on the railway lines. The outlying offices and localities far from the railway stations are served by postmen or by mail contractors.

Mails to and from Europe are received and despatched regularly twice every month by the French Messageries Maritimes Steamers via Suez, and twice in transit through South Africa by the Dutch K.P.M. Steamers. Other vessels are occasionally available. The time taken in transit for letters from Great Britain is about 32 days by the Messageries Maritimes Steamers and between 26 and 52 days via South Africa.

English parcel mails are not received by the Cape route unless a direct boat is available; the normal route is via Marseilles. Parcels from continental Europe are also received by this route.

Mails to and from India, Ceylon, the Far East and Australia are usually received and forwarded by the Messageries Maritimes Steamers via Mombasa or Aden, and by the K.P.M. Steamers via Singapore or Batavia.

There is a regular monthly service by the Dutch K.P.M. Steamers with Rodrigues, the largest dependency of Mauritius, and a regular four-monthly steamer service with the other dependencies. Occasional communications by sailing vessels are also available.

Remittances may be made by both money orders and postal orders. There are direct exchanges with the United Kingdom, South Africa, India, Ceylon, Mozambique, Australia, Seychelles and Hong Kong; and through the intermediary of these offices, remittances may be made to almost any place. Remittances may also be made by telegraph to the United Kingdom, South Africa, India, Mozambique and Seychelles.

There is a telephone service which is managed by the Oriental Telephone Company whose main office is in Port Louis with which the rural districts are connected. Government offices

Digitized by Google

are linked together by a Government owned telephone system which is connected with the Oriental Telephone Company's lines.

Telegraphic communication is provided by cable and is maintained by the Eastern and South African Telegraph Company whose chief local station is at Port Louis; the Company has also a station at Port Mathurin in Rodrigues. Cablegrams are transmitted to and from the rural Post Offices on Government lines.

Communication with the outer world is also maintained by a wireless station. The station works mainly with ships at sea, but there is also a service with Reunion Island. The Station was built by the Admiralty in 1915 for communication with ships at sea and with various naval bases in the Indian Ocean. It was closed during a short period in 1922-3 and was taken over by the Mauritius Government in June, 1923. There has been a 24-hour service since October, 1928.

During the cyclonic season from 11th November to 15th May, the station transmits to all ships and stations within range, at 0845 G.M.T. daily, a detailed weather report including observations made at Seychelles, Rodrigues, Reunion and Durban. The average yearly number of weather reports intercepted from ships at sea is 2,500. When a cyclone is in the vicinity the Government tug *Maurice* stationed in the harbour at Port Louis is manned and inland weather reports are transmitted by wireless telegraphy from the tug to all vessels in port, for the guidance of their masters. The wireless apparatus in the *Maurice* also acts as a stand-by in the event of accident to the aerial system at the main wireless station at Rose Belle. The Rose Belle Station is provided with a modern valve set in conformity with the Telecommunication Convention. The range of the Station is 1,000 miles.

There is a privately-owned local broadcasting station licensed by Government. The station transmits between 1900 and 2000 G.M.T. programmes consisting mainly of gramophone records.

Harbour.

Port Louis, the capital of the Colony, possesses the only navigable harbour for ocean-going ships, which is picturesquely situated on the north-west coast. A wide break in the ring of coral reefs surrounding the island, caused by the meeting of several rivers and streams, the Latanier, La Paix, Le Pouce, and Creole, gives access to the harbour, which has been dredged so as to provide deep-water accommodation for ten ships lying at berths in the channel and drawing from 24 to 31 feet of water. The harbour is flanked on the north by Fort George, a military post, and on the south by Fort William, which is abandoned. The mountains of the range behind Port Louis, including the

Digitized by Google

Pouce, 2,661 feet, and Pieter Both, 2,690 feet, are guiding beacons to ships by day. The lighthouses of Flat Island, the Colony's quarantine station six miles north of Mauritius, and Caves Point, five miles south of Port Louis on the cliff's edge, and the gas buoy to the north of the outer harbour entrance, direct ships approaching Port Louis by night. A tide gauge has been in operation for four years. The maximum rise of tide at ordinary springs is three feet, which diminishes to two or three inches at ordinary neaps. Dredging of the berths and channel by the Government plant is continuously in progress.

The Government of Mauritius is the Harbour Authority. The Government has from time to time sold or let to two lighterage companies various areas of land bordering the harbour. These two companies, the New Mauritius Dock Company and the Albion Dock Company, each own about 45 lighters with the necessary tugs, and undertake all the storage and lighterage of sugar. The British India Steam Navigation Company also own 30 lighters and two tugs. This Company mainly handles grain from the East, the rest of the general cargo being shared fairly evenly between the British India Company and the other two lighterage companies. Six years ago the Government built a deep-water quay, 500 feet long, with 32 feet of water alongside, which is able to deal with 100,000 tons of cargo per annum. Actually only 40,000 to 50,000 tons, chiefly petroleum products, Government coal, etc., are discharged annually at the quay.

A Government granary, capable of storing 300,000 bags of rice, was completed six years ago as a protection against the spread of plague in the Colony, and is now working satisfactorily.

Shipping.

There are now three regular lines of passenger steamers connecting Mauritius with the United Kingdom.

The service between Marseilles and Mauritius, performed by the Messageries Maritimes Company has been reduced to a three-weekly service for four months of the year and a fortnightly service for the remainder of the year; the average voyage takes from four to five weeks and includes a stay of about a week at Reunion either on the outward or homeward voyage.

Vessels of the K.P.M. (Dutch Line) leave Mauritius monthly for Durban and Cape Ports connecting with the Royal Mail steamers from the United Kingdom; and once a month for Mombasa via Durban.

Vessels also leave Durban once a month direct for Mauritius.

The K.P.M. Company proposes to put three new motor vessels of about 16,000 tons gross and a speed of about 17½ knots on the Java—Mauritius—Africa Line. The voyage to England via

Digitized by Google

K.P.M. and Union Castle lines averages 32 days. The same voyage by the Messageries Maritimes Line via Marseilles would take from 31 to 36 days.

Vessels of the Bullard King Company call occasionally from the United Kingdom via Durban and Cape Ports, with tourists.

Cheap passages to the United Kingdom may, as usual, be secured during the sugar shipping season—October to March—the voyage averaging 40 days.

The fares from Mauritius to England vary as follows:—

(i) per Messageries Maritimes steamers, from £76 to £32;

(ii) per Union Castle Intermediate steamers from £89 to £36;

(iii) per K.P.M. with transhipment at Durban from £117 and £92 to £48 and £44;

(iv) per Bullard King & Company's steamers from £50 to £43 according to classes and types of steamers.

Government servants are allowed a rebate of from 15 to 20 per cent. by all the above companies.

The number of vessels and total tonnage entering and leaving the port during the past three years were as follows:—

INWARDS.

		1934.		1935.		1936.	
		No.	*Tons.*	*No.*	*Tons.*	*No.*	*Tons.*
Foreign	Steamers ...	207	641,389	200	625,175	206	641,150
	Sailing ships	2	345	—	—	1	88
		209	641,734	200	625,175	207	641,238
Coastings	Steamers ...	6	5,274	11	8,197	11	9,045
	Sailing ships	20	3,837	15	2,413	14	1,465
		26	9,111	26	10,610	25	10,510

OUTWARDS.

		1934.		1935.		1936.	
		No.	*Tons.*	*No.*	*Tons.*	*No.*	*Tons.*
Foreign	Steamers ...	207	643,543	201	622,274	205	645,315
	Sailing ships	1	40	—	—	1	88
		208	643,583	201	622,274	206	645,403
Coasting	Steamers ...	6	5,274	10	8,166	12	9,924
	Sailing ships	21	4,142	15	2,402	14	1,465
		27	9,416	25	10,568	26	11,389

Digitized by Google

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are three private banks in the Colony, viz.:—

(*a*) The Mauritius Commercial Bank;

(*b*) The Mercantile Bank of India; and

(*c*) Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas).

The Mauritius Commercial Bank was established in 1838, and has paid-up capital of Rs.2,000,000 made up of 10,000 shares of Rs.200 each. The total amount of deposits on 31st December, 1936, was Rs.7,015,671. The Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, took over the business of the Bank of Mauritius, Limited, on 3rd May, 1916. The total paid-up capital is £1,050,000. The deposits made locally on 31st December, 1936, amounted to Rs.2,931,523. Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) has a paid-up capital of £4,975,500. The total deposits of the local Bank on 31st December, 1936, amounted to Rs.3,511,721. This Bank which is affiliated with Barclays Bank, Limited, was founded in 1925 and represents the amalgamation of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Limited, the Colonial Bank (incorporated by Royal Charter in 1836), and the National Bank of South Africa Limited. A branch of the last-named bank was established in Mauritius in December, 1919. In February, 1926, its business was taken over by Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) following the amalgamation already mentioned.

Offices of the Government Savings Bank are established in the nine districts with a head office in Port Louis. The total number of depositors at 30th June, 1936, was 38,990 compared with 38,553 in the preceding year, with deposits amounting to Rs.6,495,031 as against Rs.6,236,739. Interest is paid at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum.

Currency.

In March, 1934, an Ordinance was enacted " to make provision with respect to the currency notes of the Colony and to place the issue of such currency notes upon a permanent basis ". By this Ordinance the Currency Commissioners are required to issue, on demand, currency notes in exchange for sterling lodged with the Crown Agents in London, and to pay on demand sterling in London in exchange for currency notes lodged with them. The rate at which these exchanges are to be made is fixed at one rupee for one shilling and six pence sterling, and the minimum transaction is £5,000 or its equivalent.

Digitized by Google

The Currency Commissioners are entitled to charge commission not exceeding one and three-quarters per centum in addition to the cost of any telegrams sent in connexion with any transfer.

The effect has been to substitute for the Indian rupee a new paper rupee based on sterling and to limit official exchange fluctuations to a maximum spread of three and a half per centum.

Local commercial practice is such that the effective rate of exchange is the rate at which the banks sell sterling and not the mean between the buying and selling rates. At the time the Ordinance was introduced the rate was Rs.13.70 for £1 by telegraphic transfer, or approximately one rupee for one shilling and five pence halfpenny sterling. With a view to avoiding any sudden fluctuation in the actual rate of exchange, the commission which the Currency Commissioners were authorized to charge when selling sterling was fixed, in the first instance, at the maximum of one and three-quarters per cent., making the effective official exchange rate Rs.13.57 for £1 in respect of amounts of £5,000 or over. The rate charged by the Currency Commissioners when buying sterling has been fixed at one-quarter per cent.

The value of the currency is maintained by a Note Security Fund held by the Crown Agents and invested in Government Securities (other than those of the Colony). Profits arising from currency transactions and income from the investments of the Note Security Fund must be applied in the first instance to maintaining the Security Fund at a value equal to the face value of currency notes in circulation. If the value of the Note Security Fund reaches one hundred and ten per cent. of the face value of notes in circulation, all profits then accrue to the revenue of the Colony.

With a view to facilitating transactions between the Banks and between the Banks and the Treasury, new notes of Rs.1,000 denomination were issued in November, 1936.

Subsidiary silver coinage was introduced under an Ordinance passed in September, 1934. The coins are not normally redeemable but the seignorage on the issue is invested.

The value of the currency notes of five rupees, ten rupees and one thousand rupees, in circulation on 31st December, 1936, was Rs. 9,227,500 and that of Mauritius silver coins on the same date Rs.1,875,000.

The local unit of currency is the Mauritius rupee, equivalent to 1s. 6d. sterling, divided into 100 cents.

The coinage in circulation is the silver rupee, half rupee, quarter rupee and 20-cent and 10-cent pieces and the bronze 5-cent, 2-cent and 1-cent pieces.

Digitized by Google

Weights and Measures.

The metric system is in general use; the following special French and local measures are, however, still to be found:—

Measures of length and area:—

1 ligne Francaise	= 2·258 millimetres or 0·088 inch.
12 lignes	= 1 French inch.
12 French inches	= 1 French foot.
1 French foot	= 1·06 English feet.
1 lieue	= 2½ English miles (approx.).
1 gaulette	= 10 French feet.
1 arpent	= 40,000 square French feet or 1·04 acres.
1 toise	= 6 French feet or 2 yards 4 inches.

Measures of capacity:—

1 barrique	= 50 gallons (cane juice, etc.).
1 tiercon	= 190 to 192 litres (molasses).
1 velte	= 7·45 litres (coconut oil).
1 bouteille	= 800 cubic centimetres (liquid).
1 chopine	= ½ bouteille.
1 corde	= 80 French cubic feet or 96·82 English cubic feet (firewood).

Measures of weight:—

1 Gamelle	= 5·250 kilogrammes.
1 livre	= 500 grammes or 1·10 English pounds.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for all Government buildings, the sewerage of Port Louis, roads and bridges, the survey of Crown Lands, water supplies, and State irrigation.

Buildings.—Some of these, such as a time-ball tower in the Port Office, are of historical interest, dating from the time of the French Governor, Mahé de Labourdonnais, in 1740. Government House in Port Louis was then in project and was built between 1740 and 1767. Apart from the addition of a second storey, it now stands exactly as it was originally constructed. It contains the Governor's offices, in which are to be found the table on which the instrument of capitulation of the island was signed in 1810, a throne room, a council room, the council offices, a library, and quarters for the Governor and officials. The former and present residences of the Governors at " Mon Plaisir ", Pamplemousses, and " Le Reduit ", Moka, respectively, also date back to the French occupation. The value of the Government buildings is approximately 15 million rupees.

There are in the island one mental and nine general hospitals. An old hospital, the Grand River North-West Hospital, built in 1769 for seamen, is used when necessary as a quarantine station for plague.

Digitized by Google

Damage is caused to a considerable extent by white ants which are particularly active in the low-lying districts of the island.

Severe cyclones, which happily are not frequent, are responsible for a good deal of damage to water works, roads and buildings.

Sewerage Works of Port Louis.—The sewerage works were begun in 1900. In 1922, the scheme was revised by Messrs. Mansergh and Sons and the works have been carried out on the lines of their report. The construction works being now practically completed, present activities are concentrated on house service connexions, and a large portion of the town of Port Louis now has the water carriage system.

Bridges.—There exist 335 bridges on main and branch roads, the longest having spans of 150 feet. Only a few timber bridges remain and these are being gradually replaced by ferro concrete structures for double line of traffic and heavy loading.

Water Works.—The water supply of the town of Port Louis is obtained from the Grand River North-West at a distance of about four miles from the town at a level of 250 feet. This supply was handed over by the Municipality to the Public Works Department in 1922. The water is passed through sand filters and chlorinated. The capacity of the mains leading to the filters is 5 million gallons a day. The water is distributed to the town from two covered service reservoirs of a total capacity of 2 million gallons.

The water supply of Plaines Wilhems and of parts of Moka and Black River Districts is obtained from a storage reservoir called the Mare aux Vacoas, at an altitude of 1,825 feet. The capacity of the reservoir is now, after the raising of the dam, 1,641 million gallons. The catchment ground is entirely protected by forest lands. The whole of this water supply is filtered through sand filters at " La Marie ", about two miles below the reservoir, whence the supply to the town of Curepipe is pumped by hydraulic power, the supply to the other towns being by gravity. The water is distributed from six covered service reservoirs situated in the various zones of supply, their aggregate capacity being 5½ million gallons. The population served by this supply is approximately 90,000, and the average daily consumption 3½ million gallons. The Mare aux Vacoas water supply has been extended to the town of Port Louis. The supply is limited to 900,000 gallons per day. In this connexion a covered service reservoir at Petite Riviere of 750,000 gallons was completed and put into operation in 1931.

At the beginning of 1934, a Committee was appointed to report on the quality of the water of the Mare aux Vacoas supply, and

Digitized by Google

on measures that could be adopted to improve the quality. The report was received in June, 1934, and it concluded as follows:—

> "The purification of the Mare-aux-Vacoas waters by means of existing slow sand filtration is inefficacious and defective and does not constitute an adequate safeguard in the event, however unlikely, of harmful contamination of the raw water."

The main recommendations of the Committee were to the effect that (i) the raw water should be taken from the lake as near as possible from the surface, (ii) the water should be aerated before the filters and (iii) the water chlorinated after filtration.

The works recommended by the Committee of the Mare-aux-Vacoas water have been proceeded with and completed.

The water supply to the villages and hamlets in the other districts comes from 27 different springs or streams. These supplies are not filtered but they are generally protected in their catchment areas by reserves of forest. The population depending on these various supplies is about 200,000 and is comprised mostly of the poorer classes. A large proportion of the daily consumption is distributed by means of public fountains.

Irrigation works.—Government storage irrigation works were begun in 1914 according to plans made by Mr. C. M. Harriott, C.S.I., C.I.E., M.Inst.C.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Central Provinces, India, and Consulting Engineer for Irrigation Works to the Government of Mauritius. The La Ferme scheme for the irrigation of the south-west of the island, between Grand River North West and River Dragon, has been completed, and the Nicoliere scheme to irrigate land in the north, was started in 1918. These two schemes cover 18,700 acres in the area below the level which enjoys 60 inches of rain and cannot be cultivated to the best advantage without irrigation water. The La Ferme scheme is dependent on a low-level reservoir of 2,500 million gallons, which was completed in 1918 and now irrigates 3,700 acres of land under sugarcane plantation. The plans for the Nicoliere scheme include a high-level storage reservoir at 1,300 feet altitude at Midlands, of 4,400 million gallons capacity, intended to fill a low-level reservoir at Nicoliere of a capacity of about 250 million gallons.

Owing to financial conditions the plans were first curtailed and the works afterwards suspended. The Feeder Channel which measures 16¾ miles from Midlands to Nicoliere and which had been completed by the end of 1931 with a reduced section has now been built up to its full section and concreted. The area covered by the existing curtailed plan is only 11,000 as compared with 15,000 acres in the original plan.

Digitized by Google

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

Justice is administered in Mauritius by the Supreme Court and ten District Magistracies.

Supreme Court.—The Supreme Court sits in the capital (Port Louis) and is presided over by one Chief Judge and two Puisne Judges. It has jurisdiction in Civil and Criminal matters and also as a Court of Admiralty; it also decides appeals from the Supreme Court of Seychelles and the Inferior Courts of Mauritius. There is a Bankruptcy Division presided over by one of the Judges or by the Master and Registrar sitting as Judge in Bankruptcy. In 1936 the Supreme Court dealt with 254 civil matters out of 320 which were brought before it, as against 238 out of 298 in 1935. In 1936 14 persons were brought before this Court and tried on criminal charges and of these 11 were convicted. Criminal cases are tried by a Judge and a Jury. Divorce cases, bankruptcy matters and civil actions in which the sum involved is less than Rs.3,000 are heard by one Judge. Civil actions in respect of claims over Rs.3,000 are heard by two Judges. Where, however, the magnitude of the interests at stake or the importance of the questions of fact or law involved make it desirable, a case is heard by three Judges.

Magistrates.—There is a Magistrate's Court in each of the nine districts, the Courts in Port Louis and in Plaines Wilhems each sitting in two divisions. A Magistrate has jurisdiction in nearly all civil matters involving not more than Rs.1,000 and in all criminal matters with power to inflict not more than one year's imprisonment and Rs.1,000 fine. A Bench of three Magistrates may be instituted by law for the trial of certain offences and also at the request of the Procureur-General for nearly all offences, with jurisdiction extending to three years' penal servitude or imprisonment and fine possibly of Rs.3,000. An appeal lies of right to the Supreme Court within the limits stated above, both in fact and law, the several modes of reviewing the decisions being the same as in English Law. There is no system similar to the French Assistance Judiciaire but facilities are given to very poor litigants both before the Supreme and the Inferior Courts to obtain leave to sue *in forma pauperis*. In Supreme Court cases, counsel are ready to accept a pauper brief at the request of the Chief Judge, while in Assize cases counsel is always appointed without fee, for undefended prisoners. The Dependencies are visited periodically by one of two Magistrates supernumerary to the District Magistrates, whose services are also available in Mauritius.

Digitized by Google

The Dependency of Rodrigues is administered by a Magistrate who has the same jurisdiction in Rodrigues as a District Magistrate in Mauritius and whose duties are to a considerable extent administrative.

The Magistrates heard 11,481 civil cases and 11,048 ordinary criminal cases and petty offences and held:—

165 coroners' inquests;
24 preliminiary inquiries into crimes and serious misdemeanours.

Police.

Organization.—The Mauritius Police Force has an establishment of 21 Gazetted Officers and 596 other ranks. The personnel of the Force is almost entirely recruited locally, there being at present only 13 Officers and Warrant Officers classified as " Home-born " who were posted from England or transferred from other Forces.

The Force is organized mainly as a " Civil " as distinct from a " Military " Police Force but recruits are instructed in the use of the rifle, an Armed Detachment is maintained at Headquarters and those who have qualified in preliminary tests fire a musketry course every year.

The establishment is divided into Headquarters Staff, Clerical Branch, Criminal Investigation Branch, Revenue and Motor Vehicle Control Branch, Training School, Harbour Police, Railway Police, District Police, Rodrigues Police and the Police Band.

Police Headquarters is situated in the historic Line Barracks of Port Louis and the District Police are distributed in 55 Stations of varying size and importance.

Crime.—The total number of offences of all kinds reported to the Police during the year 1936 was 23,986 which shows a slight decrease on the figure for 1935 which was 24,216 and also a decrease on the average of 24,000 for the past three years.

More than half of these offences are of a minor character or refer to Statutory and Revenue contraventions.

The more serious offences are classified as follows:—

Offences against the person	... ...	8,620 in 1936
,, ,, ,, ,,	... ...	8,442 in 1935
Offiences against property	... ...	3,169 in 1936
,, ,, ,,	... ...	2,929 in 1935

The number of persons prosecuted in connexion with these 23,986 offences was 9,946, of whom 8,918 were convicted, 591 otherwise disposed of and 437 pending trial at the end of the year.

Corresponding figures for the previous year were 10,589 persons prosecuted, 9,525 convicted, 537 otherwise disposed of and 527 pending trial at the end of the year.

Digitized by Google

Prisons.

Organization.—The Mauritius Prisons Department has an establishment of four Gazetted Officers, who are appointed from England, and 108 other ranks recruited locally.

The Department is placed under the charge of the Commissioner of Police, who holds the appointment of Superintendent of Prisons, and is responsible for the management and control of the two penal institutions of the Colony, Port Louis and Beau Bassin Prisons.

Port Louis Prison provides separate cell accommodation for 154 male prisoners, association cells for 40 women in a special block, and contains the offices of the Department and quarters for two Chief Officers and two matrons.

Every male convicted prisoner is sent to this Prison and on admission is classified as (1) Adult Felon, (2) Adult Hard Labour, (3) Adult Misdemeanant, (4) Juvenile Felon or Hard Labour, (5) Juvenile Misdemeanant or (6) Special.

Felons are prisoners sentenced to penal servitude and misdemeanants are those sentenced to imprisonment without Hard Labour or for failing to pay fines.

Groups (1), (2) and (4) are subdivided into First Offenders and Recidivists.

Prisoners classified in Group (1) and Recidivists of Group (2) sentenced to 14 days and upwards normally serve their sentence at Beau Bassin which contains 756 separate cells for males only while all misdemeanants, Special Class and well-conducted Adults and Juvenile First Offenders are accommodated at Port Louis.

Debtors, Women and Waiting Trial Prisoners are also given separate accommodation at Port Louis Prison.

Labour.—Hard labour consists of quarrying, stone breaking, cutting firewood, and agricultural work outside the Prisons, and tailoring, boot, sail and mattress making, tin-smith work and black-smithing, carpentry and cabinet making, blind, mat and basket making and baking inside the prison's workshop.

Population.—The number of persons admitted to Port Louis Prison during the year was 2,695, which is 228 less than in the previous year and 604 less than the average for the preceding five years. Of the 2,695 persons, 1,684 were convicted, of whom 1,179 were sentenced to imprisonment for one month or less. The convicted prisoners comprised 1,609 men and 75 women. The daily average population was 451·15 compared with 444·89 in 1935 and the number of persons in prison on 31st December, 1936, was 379 compared with 417 in 1935 and 424 in 1934.

Of the 379 persons in Prison, 355 were serving sentences and comprised 345 men and 10 women.

The number of persons who served sentences of imprisonment in lieu of paying fines was 854, including 39 women.

Digitized by Google

Health.—There were eight deaths in hospital as compared with 13 in the preceding year.

Industrial School.

The Barkly Industrial School for boys is an institution for the training of juvenile offenders and vagrants, boys living in criminal surroundings, and those who cannot be controlled at home or in orphanages, etc.

The School is under the supervision of the Commissioner of Police and has a resident staff of one Chief Officer and 11 Instructors and Assistants. It occupies a group of buildings formerly used as a hospital and comprises large grounds which are fully cultivated as gardens, etc.

The number of boys in the School at the end of the year was 91, compared with 77 in 1935 and 54 in 1934. The number of admissions was 48 and discharges 26 for the whole year.

A Visiting Committee instituted by law looks after the general welfare of the inmates of the School and exercises a beneficent influence on the institution.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Forty-five Ordinances were passed by Council of Government and assented to by the Governor between the 3rd of April and the 3rd of November, 1936.

The majority of these Ordinances deal with matters of domestic importance amongst which the following are of considerable importance.

Public Health.—Ordinance No. 11 of 1936 provides for an extension of the sewerage area of the town of Port Louis with consequential improvement in the health conditions likely to be derived therefrom.

Law and Order.—(i) Ordinance 41 of 1936 provides for the prevention of riots and the better preservation of the public peace.

(ii) Ordinance No. 29 amends the Penal Code Ordinance No. 6 of 1838, with reference to the counterfeiting of coins, seals and similar offences.

(iii) Ordinances Nos. 14 and 15 of 1936 provide better and more adequate measures for the deportation of undesirable persons.

Finance.—(i) Ordinance No. 1 and Ordinance No. 7 of 1936 provide for the establishment and financing of a local Agricultural Bank.

(ii) Ordinance No. 13 provides for the better control of the Government Savings Bank.

(iii) Ordinance No. 35 provides for the transfer of the balance of the Mauritius General Improvement and Development Fund to the general revenue and assets of the Colony.

(iv) Ordinance No. 31 provides for the control of the transport of sugar and fertilizers.

Digitized by Google

Judicature.—Ordinances Nos. 9 and 10 amend the District Court Constitution Ordinance with reference to the jurisdiction of the District Magistrates.

Civil Service.—Ordinance No. 43 of 1936 provides for a total recast of the law governing the grant of pensions, gratuities and allowances to Civil Servants in the Colony.

A list of the more important Ordinances is given in Appendix I to this Report.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Colony for the year ended 30th June, 1936, amounted to Rs.15,350,986, including Rs.42,000, the unexpended balance of the 1922 Loan, and was Rs.92,564 less than the Estimate and Rs.7,613,258 less than that of the previous year.

The expenditure for the same period was Rs.14,694,644, being Rs.455,722 below the Estimate and Rs.5,956,310 below that of the previous year.

The revenue during the financial year 1935-36 exceeded expenditure by Rs.656,342 and the surplus of assets over liabilities on 30th June, 1936, amounted to Rs.17,846,203.

Of the expenditure for 1935-36, Rs.4,946,200 were spent on "Personal Emoluments" and Rs.9,748,444 on "Other Charges". The corresponding figures for 1934-35 were Rs.4,934,509 for "Personal Emoluments" and Rs.15,716,445 on "Other Charges".

The following is a comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure for the last five years.

Year.	*Revenue.* Rs.	*Expenditure.* Rs.
1931–32	12,160,279	17,704,574
1932–33	30,200,418	13,810,589
1933–34	16,567,110	14,634,339
1934–35	22,964,244*	20,650,954
1935–36	15,350,986	14,694,644

* Including Rs 7,882,380 Special Revenue.

The revenue normally becoming due and collected during the year 1932-33 was Rs.14,503,504, and the increase in the amount shown for that year was due to special adjustments comprising, *inter alia,* the following transfers to Revenue:—

	Rs.
Widows' and Orphans' Fund	5,032,347·84
Government Scholarship Fund	539,769·17
Improvement and Development Fund	6,317,717·98
Mauritius Loan, 1922	1,362,678·99
Unexpended balance, Sugar Industry Loan, 1929 ...	7,315·90
	13,259,829·88

Digitized by Google

The Colonial Government pays a military contribution of 5½ per cent. of its revenue (total revenue exclusive of land sales, irrigation, Mare aux Vacoas and other water works revenue, and special export duty on sugar) towards the cost of the garrison maintained in the Colony by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom.

The contribution was, however, limited to £42,000 for the year 1935-36 to cover the actual cost of the garrison during the year.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt of the Colony on 30th June, 1936, was £2,878,995. Against this liability there was an accumulated Sinking Fund of £1,836,347 compared with £1,743,372 on 30th June, 1935.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 30th June, 1936.

Liabilities.	*Rs.*	*Assets.*	*Rs.*
Other Colonial Governments.	37,666	Cash Balances	6,705,223
Deposits	655,244	Imprests	2,750
Loan Funds Unexpended...	223,191	Advances	12,026,591
Appropriated Funds ...	9,976,706	Unallocated Stores ...	440,060
Balance : Surplus of Assets over Liabilities at 30th June, 1936.	17,846,203	Appropriated Funds Invested.	9,564,386
Rs.	28,739,010	Rs.	28,739,010

Description of the Main Heads of Taxation and their Yield.

The main heads of taxation with their yield for the current year as compared with the preceding year are the following:—

	1934–35. *Rs.*	*1935–36.* *Rs.*
Customs—Import duties	4,422,207	4,533,469
,, —Export duties	648,314	450,777
Excise duty on rum	1,590,107	1,680,232
Licence duties	1,111,627	1,099,124
Tobacco excise	1,200,427	1,247,492
Taxes on vehicles and animals ...	399,313	424,477
House tax	225,425	208,411
Poll tax	540,978	429,502

Customs Duties.

The Revenue from Customs duties for the year 1936 was Rs.4,640,335 for Imports and Rs.566,369 for Exports.

The figures for the two previous years were:—

	Import duty. *Rs.*	*Export duty.* *Rs.*
1935	4,650,711	816,385
1934	4,899,209	738,624

Digitized by Google

Customs Tariff (Summarized).

The following shows the rates of duty on the principal imports and exports on the 31st of December, 1936:—

IMPORTS.

Rice	R. 0·63 per 100 kilos.	Wines in casks up to 14°.	Rs. 22·00 per hectolitre.
Dholl	Rs. 1·14 per 100 kilos.	Wines in cases up to 14° (still).	R. 0·33 per litre.
Flour	R. 0·94 per 100 kilos.	Spirits (proof) ...	Rs. 6·87 per litre.
Fertilizers ...	R. 0·11 to Rs. 1·10 per 100 kilos.	Tobacco, manufactured.	Rs. 15·00 per litre.
Petroleum oil ...	Rs. 5·28 per hectolitre.	Tobacco, cigarettes.	Rs. 16·50 per kilo.
Petroleum spirits	Rs. 14·00 per hectolitre.	Vegetable oil, other than olive.	Rs. 5·50 to Rs. 9·00 per 100 kilos.
Soap, common...	Rs. 1·93 per 100 kilos.	Most manufactured articles.	5 to 55 per cent. *ad valorem*, with an average of about 15 per cent. *ad valorem*.

EXPORTS.

*Sugar	R. 0·46 per 100 kilos.	†Aloe fibre ...	Rs. 4·0 per 1,000 kilos.

NOTE.—*The duty on sugar is only for special purposes as under :—
R. 0·03 per cent. kilos for destruction of *Phytalis Smithi*;
R. 0·03 ,, ,, ,, ,, College of Agriculture;
R. 0·04 ,, ,, ,, ,, Sugar Industry Reserve Fund;
R. 0·036 ,, ,, ,, ,, in refund of loans.
† The duty on aloe fibre includes Rs. 3 per 1,000 kilos in refund of loan to the hemp industry.

Principal Preferential Rates on Imports.

	Preferential.	*General.*
Motor vehicles of all kinds, including tyres and tubes.	5·5 per cent. *ad valorem*.	36·66 per cent. *ad valorem*.
Silk manufactures (including artificial silk).	16·5 ,, ,, ,, ,, or R. 0·55 per kilo whichever is the higher.	55 ,, ,, ,, ,, or R. 1·75 per kilo
Indigo	Rs. 1·10 per kilo.	Rs. 2·75 per kilo.
Cement	R. 0·30 per 100 kilos.	R. 1·00 per 100 kilos.
Cinema films	Free.	R. 0·04 per metre.
Machinery, industrial...	Rs. 1·45 per 100 kilos.	5·5 per cent. *ad valorem*.
Cotton manufactures ...	5 per cent. *ad valorem*.	26 per cent. *ad valorem*, and also specific rates in certain cases.
Hardware	11 per cent. *ad valorem*.	22 per cent. *ad valorem*.
Coal	8 cents per 100 kilos.	42 cents per 100 kilos.

Excise and Stamp Duties.

The duty on rum for home consumption for potable use is Rs.2.75 per litre of 23 degrees Cartier and an additional duty of 12 cents per litre for every degree above 23 degrees Cartier.

Digitized by Google

Four distilleries worked periodically during 1936. Three of these distilleries form an annexe to sugar mills; in all cases spirits are distilled from molasses and the strength of the spirits produced varies from 30 to 42 degrees Cartier. The bulk is produced at 39 degrees Cartier or below and when broken down to 23 degrees Cartier, is consumed locally as potable rum, though it has the general characteristics of rectified spirit.

The remainder of the spirits produced is used after denaturation or compounding for lighting and heating and power purposes; for the preparation of medicinal tinctures, drugs, perfumed spirits and for the manufacture of vinegar. Attempts have been made to find an export market for locally produced alcohol but with little success. The quantity exported was 22,267 litres for the period July, 1935, to June, 1936, as compared with 28,732 litres for the previous period.

The duty on spirits to be denaturated for heating and lighting is 4 cents per litre at 36 degrees Cartier and an additional duty of 4 cents per hectolitre or fraction thereof for every degree above 36 degrees Cartier.

Owing to the quantity of electrical power available and the organization for its distribution, comparatively little use is made of locally produced alcohol for lighting purposes. Where electrical power is not available kerosene is a more popular illuminant. The poorest classes, who require little illumination since they mostly retire at nightfall, use coconut oil or similar local product. There is little call for artificial heating of houses and most cooking is done by locally produced wood charcoal on charcoal stoves. Locally produced alcohol might be used largely for cooking purposes, were a satisfactory type of stove available. The import duty on denaturated or methylated alcohol is 0·33 cents per litre.

The quantity of spirits denaturated for heating and lighting purposes during the last two years is shown below:—

1934–35.		*1935–36.*	
Quantity.	*Excise duty.*	*Quantity.*	*Excise duty.*
Litres.	*Rs.*	*Litres.*	*Rs.*
138,250	5,663·62	141,410	5,764·13

The duty on spirits to be denaturated for use as motor fuel is 4 cents per litre or fraction thereof at any degree Cartier. Attempts on a commercial scale to utilize locally produced alcohol in various forms for power purposes have been in progress for about 19 years but have had little success. The increasing use of heavy fuel oil and compression ignition type engines make any further development in the use of the local alcohol improbable in present circumstances. Protection is given to the local industry by imposing a Customs duty on imported motor spirits of Rs.14·00 per hectolitre.

Digitized by Google

The following statement shows the quantity of spirits denaturated during the last two years for use as industrial alcohol:—

1934–35.		*1935–36.*	
Quantity.	*Excise duty.*	*Quantity.*	*Excise duty.*
Litres.	*Rs.*	*Litres.*	*Rs.*
268,010	10,720·40	243,800	9,752·0

The duty on alcohol for the preparation of medicinal tinctures and drugs is 10 cents per litre at any degree, but the duty on alcohol delivered for the preparation of " Alcoolats " in accordance with the formulae laid down in the British Pharmacopoeia or the French Codex or any other medicinal tinctures and drugs as notified in Gazette is Rs.2·50 per litre at 23 degrees Cartier, with an additional duty of 10 cents per litre for every degree above 23 degrees Cartier.

With the exception of certain traditional local preparations locally produced tinctures, etc., have provided little competition to the imported articles which pay an import duty at 13·2 per cent. *ad valorem.*

The following table shows the quantity of alcohol used during the last two years for the preparation of medicinal tinctures and drugs:—

1934–35.		*1935–36.*	
Quantity.	*Excise duty.*	*Quantity.*	*Excise duty.*
Litres.	*Rs.*	*Litres.*	*Rs.*
7,846	1,399·30	9,853	1,380·10

The duty on alcohol delivered for the manufacture of perfumed spirits is 50 cents per litre. The position as regards locally produced perfumed spirits is similar to that of medicinal tinctures. One or two preparations are in popular local demand but in spite of the fairly high protective import duty of 33 per cent. *ad valorem,* there is little demand for other products. Attempts have recently been made to find an export market by selling perfumery as ships' stores. It is too early yet to forecast whether this venture is likely develop to any degree.

The quantity of spirits issued for the manufacture of perfumed spirits during the last two years was as follows:—

1934–35.		*1935–36.*	
Quantity.	*Excise duty.*	*Quantity.*	*Excise duty.*
Litres.	*Rs.*	*Litres.*	*Rs.*
7,932	3,966·00	6,130	3,065·00

The duty on vinegar is Rs.1·70 per hectolitre, on vinegar not exceeding 8 degrees of strength by acidimeter and an additional duty of 18 cents per degree and per hectolitre on all vinegar above 8 degrees.

Digitized by Google

Locally-produced vinegar is manufactured exclusively by the slow oxidation of alcohol. This small industry gives indication of development. The production figures for the past years were:—

	Litres.	*Amount of duty.* Rs.
July 1934 to June 1935 ...	21,047	357·80
,, 1935 ,, ,, 1936 ...	24,500	419·96

The corresponding import duty on vinegar is Rs.3.50 per hectolitre, full rate and Rs.1.65 preferential rate.

According to the Excise figures the number of litres of spirits distilled in 1935-6 (July to June) was 966,627, as compared with an average of 961,254 litres for the past five years.

The duty on wine and other liquor (excepting rum and compounded rum) manufactured in the Colony which contain more than four degrees alcohol according to Gay Lussac's alcoholometer is as follows:—

(i) on all such liquor not exceeding 14 degrees Gay Lussac's alcoholometer a duty of 15 cents per litre;

(ii) on all such liquor exceeding 14 degrees a duty at the same rate and on the same scale as the Customs duty on wine payable under the Customs Tariff Ordinance.

Practically no grapes are grown in Mauritius and the local wine is produced from imported dried fruits, principally raisins, sugar and other ingredients. Attempts to produce wine from local fruits such as pineapples, guavas, bananas, etc., have not been successful. There has been a slight development in the wine industry during the past year from the point of view of quantity, and considerable research work is being done in the improvement of the quality of the produce and in studying the many variations in fermentation largely caused by differences in temperature, atmospheric humidity, etc.

Local wine issued:—

	Litres.
July, 1934 to June, 1935	265,947
,, 1935 ,, ,, 1936	325,366
For the calendar year, 1935	277,683
,, ,, ,, ,, 1936	350,678

An excise duty of Rs.4 per kilog. is charged on leaf tobacco for the manufacture of tobacco for local consumption.

According to the official figures, the quantity of tobacco manufactured in the year 1936 was 362,587 kilos. as compared with Ks.337,378·975 gms. in 1935.

The Excise duty collected on tobacco during the last two financial years is given below:—

	1934–35. Rs.	*1935–36.* Rs.
Tobacco	1,200,427·53	1,247,492·40

Digitized by Google

The figures for the calendar year are:—

	Year 1935.	*Year 1936.*
	Rs.	*Rs.*
Tobacco Excise	1,187,683·93	1,281,086·00

The Government Tobacco Warehouse, controlled by the Tobacco Board is proving a most useful institution for the grading and general control of tobacco grown in the Colony. It ensures for the planters a ready market for their crop, and for the manufacturers an assured source of supply at controlled prices of graded leaf. In spite of its efforts the Board has so far been unable to gain any export trade.

The Stamp Laws were amended and consolidated by the passing on 23rd November, 1926, of Ordinance 22 of 1926. This Ordinance was put into force on 23rd July, 1927, by Proclamation No. 32 of 1927.

Stamp duties are of three kinds:—

(1) A duty in proportion to the size of the paper used;
(2) A fixed duty; and
(3) An *ad valorem* duty.

The Stamp Ordinance No. 22 of 1926 was amended in 1932 by the passing of Ordinance No. 26 of 1932 to provide for the increase from 4 to 10 cents of the stamp duty on cheques drawn on banks in and out of the Colony and on receipts as defined in Article 2 (5) of the Stamp (Consolidated) Ordinance, 1926.

House Tax.

Rates.—One per cent. per annum on any building assessed over Rs.1,000.

Yield.—The amount collected during the financial year 1935-6 was Rs.208,411.

Method of assessment.—Any building liable to the house tax is assessed according to its full and fair value. In arriving at this figure, the valuer takes into consideration the actual or probable rent a tenant may be reasonably expected to pay for such building.

Method of collection.—For the purpose of collecting the house tax when the assessment arrived at is final for the year, notices for payment are served upon owners of buildings and the tax is paid to the Cashier of the district in which it is levied or to the Chief Cashier, Treasury.

Graduated Poll Tax.

A Graduated Poll Tax was imposed in 1934 on all taxable income accruing in, derived from, or received in the Colony during the year preceding the year of assessment, subject to specified exemptions.

Digitized by Google

The tax, which falls on residents and non-residents is peculiar to Mauritius and payable in half-yearly instalments by persons (including legal entities) whose income exceeds Rs.5,000.

The tax scale rises from Rs.50 (with marginal relief) on incomes exceeding Rs.5,000 but not exceeding Rs.7,000 to Rs.5,150 on incomes exceeding Rs.60,000 but not exceeding Rs.70,000. The tax on incomes exceeding Rs.70,000 is Rs.6,150.

The tax must be tendered with a Return from the Taxpayer, but the Commissioner may refuse the Return and raise an assessment subject to a right of objection and appeal to the High Court.

No provision exists for:—

(*a*) Losses to be carried forward.
(*b*) Personal or depreciation allowances.
(*c*) Dominion Income Tax Relief.
(*d*) Deduction of tax at source.

The main Ordinance was amended in 1935 chiefly to facilitate an equitable administration of the tax as regards allowances for interest paid, and to provide for reciprocation in exemption of profits from the business of Shipping.

Yield.—The amount collected for 1934-5 was Rs.540,566 but, as a result of the poor sugar crop in 1934, the Poll Tax collections for 1935-6 declined to Rs.429,502. The estimated yield for 1936-7 is Rs.580,000.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The sugar crop reaped during the year was an exceptionally good one, the total sugar production for the year reaching the record figure of 300·34 thousand metric tons against an average production of 250 thousand metric tons for the years 1930 to 1935, exclusive of the years 1931 and 1934 when on account of adverse climatic conditions, the crops were reduced to 164,010 and 178,860 thousand metric tons respectively.

There was also an increase in sugar prices during the year, but the rise came too late to have much effect on the sale of the year's crop. The large yield was however an important set-off to the continued low prices obtained for sugar during recent years and made it possible to resume the collection of the export duty on sugar of Rs.3.60 per ton levied in repayment of the Sugar Industry Loans referred to in Ordinance No. 15 of 1929, of which only a fraction of about 35 per cent. was collected in 1935 in view of the heavy deficit from the reduced crop of the year 1934 and the extremely depressed market conditions of the industry.

The Colony continued to enjoy the benefit of the General Imperial Preference amounting to about 3s. 9d. on all Colonial sugars entering the United Kingdom and of a special preference

Digitized by Google

of 3s. per cwt. on a quantity of Colonial sugars limited to 360,000 tons, the quota of Mauritius sugars entitled to the latter preference being fixed at 112,400 tons. Sugars consigned to Canada also benefit by a preference which is at least as profitable to the producer as the general preference accorded by the United Kingdom.

As exports of sugar from Mauritius to countries other than the United Kingdom and Canada are insignificant and the quantity consumed locally is about ten to eleven thousand tons annually, the portion of the 1936 crop available for export to the United Kingdom and Canada is about 290,000 tons. The total preference on this quantity of sugar, calculated at the rates given above, amounts to roughly £1,425,000.

On the recommendation of a Committee appointed by the Governor in 1934 to investigate the problem of unemployment in the Colony various works of public utility were undertaken towards the end of that year and during the year 1935 in order to give employment to as many persons as possible who were out of work. Relief works continued in progress during the whole of the year 1936, chiefly in the districts of Port Louis and Plaines Wilhems where the pressure of unemployment is more severe.

The island was visited by the French cruiser *Jeanne d'Arc* from the 25th to the 28th February, 1936, and by H.M.S. *Emerald* from the 7th to the 20th August, 1936.

His Excellency Sir W. E. F. Jackson, whose normal term of office as Governor of Mauritius was due to expire on the 30th August, 1936, left the Colony on leave of absence on the 7th April, 1936. While in England, the Governor was asked to extend his service in Mauritius in order to enable him to complete certain outstanding tasks of importance in the Colony with which he had been closely connected. He returned to Mauritius on the 3rd December, 1936.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX I.

Forty-five Ordinances were passed by the Council of Government and assented to by the Governor during the year 1936, the more important to which are tabulated as follows:—

No.	*Title.*
1	For establishing and regulating the Mauritius Agricultural Bank.
7	To make provision for raising a loan for the purpose of financing the Mauritius Agricultural Bank.
9	To amend the District Courts Constitution Ordinance, 1888.
10	To amend the Lesser Dependencies Ordinance, 1904.
11	To amend the Port Louis Sewerage Ordinance, 1905.
13	To amend and consolidate the law relative to the Government Savings Bank.
14	To regulate the deportation of undesirable aliens.
15	To regulate the deportation of undesirable British subjects.
27	To amend Ordinance No. 6 of 1838 commonly called the Penal Code.
29	To amend Ordinance No. 6 of 1838 commonly called the Penal Code.
31	To control and restrict the transport of sugar and fertilizers.
35	To legalise the transfer to the General Revenue of the balance of the Mauritius General Improvement and Development Fund.
36	To provide that Railway rates for the conveyance of sugar and fertilizers shall not be increased during a certain period.
41	To provide for the prevention of riots.
43	For regulating Pensions, Gratuities and Allowances to be granted in respect of offices held in His Majesty's Civil Service in this Colony.

APPENDIX II.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO MAURITIUS WHICH ARE OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Title.	Agents for Sale.	Price.
T'Eylandt Mauritius: Esquisses Historiques, 1698–1710.*	Out of print.	—
L'Ile de France: Esquisses Historiques, 1715–1833. By Albert Pitot.*	ditto	—
Statistiques de l'Ile Maurice et ses Dependences (Mauritius, 1886). By Baron d'Unienville.*	ditto	—
Le Folk-lore Mauricien (Maisonneuve, Paris, 1888).	ditto	—
Le Patois Creole Mauricien (Mauritius, 1880). By Charles Baissac.	ditto	—
Renseignements pour servir a l'histoire de l'Ile de France et ses Dependences (Mauritius, 1890). By Adrien d'Epinay.	ditto	—
Mauritius Illustrated. By A. MacMillan.*	ditto	—

* May be consulted in the Colonial Office Library.

Digitized by Google

Title.	Agents for Sale.	Price.
Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of Mauritius.*	His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.	2s. (approx.).
Financial situation of Mauritius; Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, December, 1931.*	ditto	4s. 6d.
Mauritius Blue Book*	Crown Agents for the Colonies.	Rs. 5·84.
A School History of Mauritius. By W. H. Ingrams.*	MacMillan & Co., London.	2s. 6d.
Report on the Anophelinae of Mauritius and on certain aspects of Malaria in the Colony. By Malcolm E. MacGregor.*	Colonial Secretary's Office, Mauritius.	Rs. 10.
Report on Medical and Sanitary matters in Mauritius. By Andrew Balfour, C.B., C.M.G., M.D., B.Sc., F.R.C.P.E., D.P.H.*	ditto	Rs. 15.
Mauritius Almanach and Commercial Handbook. By Andre Bax.*	The General Printing and Stationery Co., Ltd., Mauritius.	Rs. 10.
L'Ile Maurice (Mauritius, 1921). By W. Edward Hart.*	ditto	Rs. 3.
Island of Mauritius. By Raymond Philogene.*	ditto	—
Ile de France—Documents pour son Histoire Civile et Militaire. By Saint Elme le Duc.*	Government Printing Office, Mauritius.	Rs. 10.
Sea Fights and Corsairs of the Indian Ocean. By H. C. M. Austen, C.B.E.	Mauritius.	Rs. 50.
La pluie a l'Ile Maurice, Lat. 20° 5′ 39″ S. Long. 57° 33′ 18″ E., By Marc Herchenroder.	The General Printing and Stationery Co., Ltd.	Rs. 5.
Port Louis—Deux Siecles d'Histoire, 1735–1935. By A. Toussaint.	The Auction Mart, Port Louis.	1st Edition, Rs. 25. 2nd Edition, Rs. 8.

* May be consulted in the Colonial Office Library.

Digitized by Google

MAP OF THE ISLAND OF MAURITIUS

Scale 8 Miles to the Inch

Reduced from the Military Map
By L.T. Louis-Auguste
Surveyor P.W.D.

Louis-Auguste

Magnetic Var.n 11°35' 1929

Meridian thro' POUCE
57°31'50" E. Greenwich

Grand Bay
Cap Malheureux
Pointe aux Canonniers
Coin de Mire
Flat Island
Gabriel I.
I. aux Serpents
Round I.
Ile d'Ambre
Poudre d'Or
R. du Rempart
Mapou
Pamplemousses
Observatory
Arsenal Bay
Tombeau Bay
Terre Rouge
PORT LOUIS
Grand River N.W.
Caves Point
Lat. thro' Column on POUCE 20°11'42".25
Petite Rivière Bay
Poste de Flacq
Poste
R. du Poste
Moka
Ste Pierre
Le Réduit
Beau Bassin
Rose Hill
Quatre Bornes
Phoenix
Bambous
La Ferme
Vacoas
Curepipe
Midlands
Grand River South East
Trou d'eau Douce
Ile aux Cerfs
Grand. Riv. S.E.
Pte aux Feuilles
Pointe du Diable
Tamarind Bay
R. Tamarin
Black River B.
Mare aux Vacoas
R. des Creoles
R. la Chaux
GRAND PORT
I. aux Fouquets
I. de la Passe
MAHEBOURG
I. aux. Aigrettes
Ilot Benitiers
Grand Bassin
M.d'Albert
Plaine Magnien
Blue Bay
Morne Brabant
Ilot Brocus
Chemin Grenier
Riv. du Poste
Baie du Cap
Baie du Jacotet
Souillac
Riv. Dragon
Riv. des Anguilles

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Miles

—DISTRICTS—

1 Port Louis
2 Pamplemousses
3 Riv. du Rempart
4 Flacq
5 Grand Port
6 Savanne
7 Black River
8 P. Wilhems
9 Moka

REFERENCE

Existing Railways & Telegraphs
Railway Stations
Other Telegraph lines
Narrow Gauge Light Railway
Main Roads
Light Houses

(45886—48) Wt. 2699—3925 625 12/37 P. St. G. 377/ 7

Digitized by Google

ADVERTISEMENT

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. od. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. od. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps. [Colonial No. III] £1 (£1 os. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. od. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent ter Street

or through an

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1828

Digitized by Google

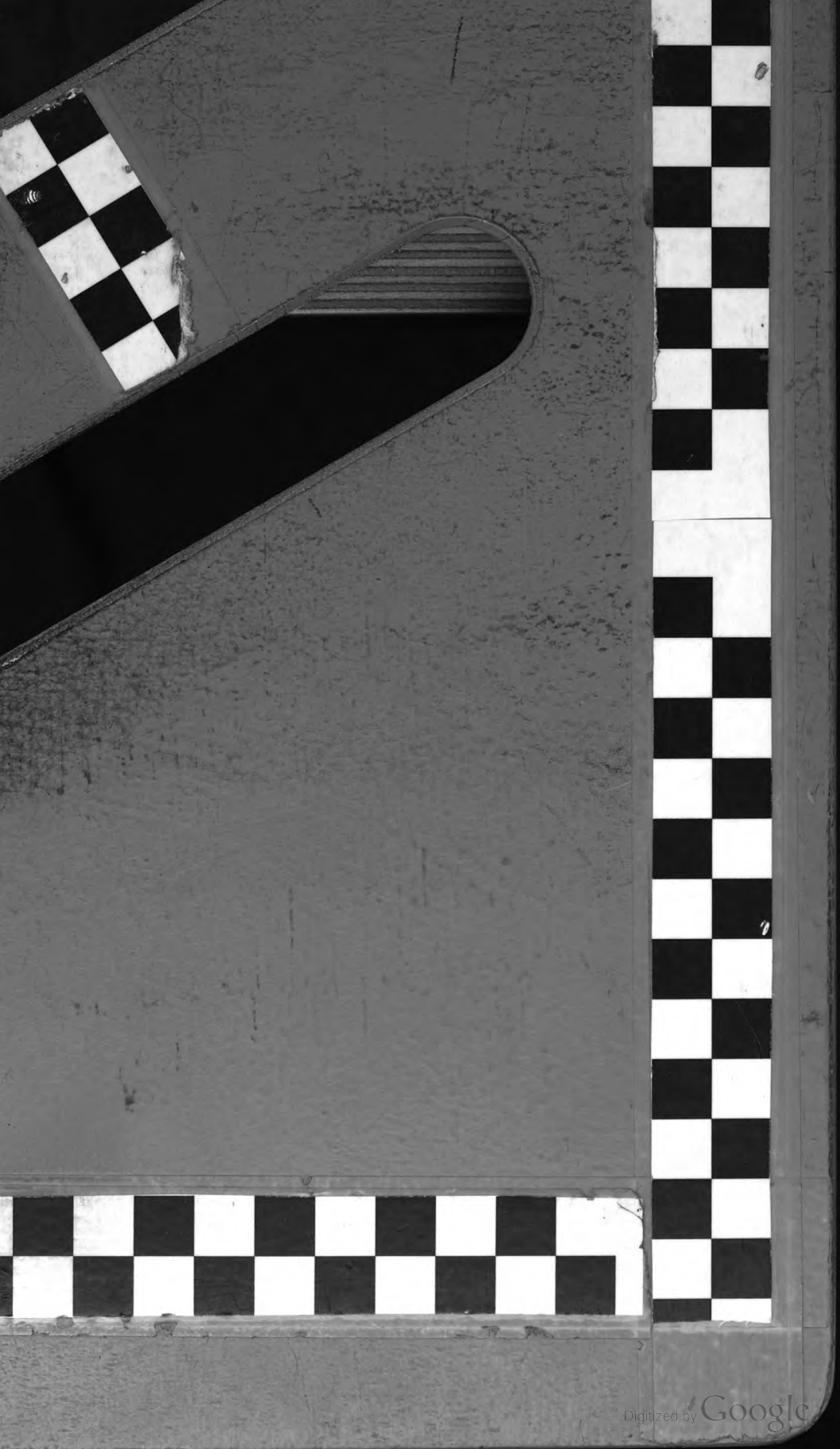
Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google


JV
33
.G7
A3
Digitized by Google

JV
33
.G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1827

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. HELENA, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1736 and 1777 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff:
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 9*d*. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1827

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. HELENA, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1736 and 1777 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 9*d.* net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. HELENA FOR 1936

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER.		PAGE.
I.	GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY	2
II.	GOVERNMENT	3
III.	POPULATION	3
IV.	HEALTH	5
V.	HOUSING	6
VI.	PRODUCTION	6
VII.	COMMERCE	7
VIII.	WAGES AND COST OF LIVING	8
IX.	EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS	9
X.	COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT	10
XI.	BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	11
XII.	PUBLIC WORKS	11
XIII.	JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS	12
XIV.	LEGISLATION	12
XV.	PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION	12
XVI.	MISCELLANEOUS	14
XVII.	GENERAL	14
	APPENDIX—BIBLIOGRAPHY	15
	MAP.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The Island of St. Helena, about 10½ miles long and 6½ broad, lies in the South Atlantic Ocean in latitude 15° 55′ South and longitude 5° 42′ West. It was discovered by João da Nova, probably in May, 1502, on his return voyage to Lisbon from India. Until 1588, when Cavendish visited it, the situation of the Island was kept a secret, and it then served as a place of refuge and refreshment for the vessels of all nations until 1659 when it was annexed by the East India Company. With the exception of a few months when it was captured on New Year's Day, 1673, by the Dutch and recaptured on the 5th May, 1673, by Sir Richard Munden, it remained in possession of the Company until the 22nd April, 1834, when it was brought under the direct government of the Crown by the Government of India Act of 1833.

A note on the climate of St. Helena and Ascension will be found in the Report for 1929—Colonial Report, No. 1475. The same Report also contains a note on the history of the Islands under the East India Company.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Southern
1-11-38
15205

II.—GOVERNMENT.

By an Act of William IV, dated the 28th of August, 1833, the Island of St. Helena; as from the 22nd of April, 1834, was transferred from the East India Company and became vested in the Crown.

Provision for the authority and appointment of Governor, for the establishment of a Council to assist the Governor and for the making and promulgation of laws, was made by a Royal Order in Council dated the 12th of October, 1835. This Order was revoked by an Order dated the 27th of July, 1863, when fresh provision was made.

The Executive Council as it exists at present was established by " The St. Helena Order in Council, 1929 ", revoking previous Orders. By Instructions issued on the 5th of June, 1929, it is provided that the Council shall consist of the Senior Military Officer in Command of regular troops in the Island and of the person holding the substantive appointment of Government Secretary of the Island, as *ex officio* Members, and of such other persons as may from time to time be appointed. Provision was also included for the appointment of Extraordinary Members on special occasions.

At the present time there are three unofficial Members of Council.

Ascension.

By Letters Patent dated the 12th of September, 1922, Ascension became a Dependency of St. Helena, and it was provided that the Governor and Executive Council of St. Helena should have the same powers in relation to Ascension as they possess in relation to St. Helena. The local Manager of Cable and Wireless Limited is appointed as Resident Magistrate and is a Member of the Executive Council of St. Helena.

III.—POPULATION.

At the time of its discovery in 1502, St. Helena was uninhabited. From 1502 until 1659 it was used by the ships of various nations as a place where travellers and seamen might recuperate, and where fresh water and supplies might be obtained. In 1659 the East India Company sent John Dutton with a few soldiers and followers to annex the Island and form a settlement. These persons constituted the original European settlement of the Island, which from time to time was added to by more settlers and soldiers from England. Slaves from Africa and Asia, and in particular from Madagascar, were introduced, and in 1810 there was a large importation of Chinese workmen. In 1840 there was a considerable influx of liberated African slaves. A few years later a St. Helena Regiment was recruited in England for service in the Island.

Digitized by Google

The Island population of to-day is largely of mixed origin. The language of the Island has always been English; but the exceptional English environment is not generally realized by those unacquainted with its people. All St. Helenians receive a primary education and their homes, social life and outlook follows entirely the English tradition.

The population as revealed by the vital statistics shows a rapid and substantial increase. In previous decades a great measure of relief was obtained from emigration to South Africa; but this source of employment is no longer available as the Island people are unable to compete with the cheaper and more powerful coloured labour. Their physique is slight, and, by nature and habit, they are deft and polite, and admirably suited to light trades and employment and domestic service.

The population as ascertained by the census taken in the year 1931 is classified as under:—

	Males.	*Females.*	*Total.*
Islanders	1,825	2,026	3,851
Other British Residents ...	77	65	142
Other Nationals	2	—	2
	1,904	2,091	3,995

The distribution of the population is shown in the following table:—

District.	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*
Jamestown, including the Briars and Ruperts Valley	706	823	1,529
Half Tree Hollow and Ladder Hill (including Garrison)	227	263	490
St. Paul's	157	173	330
High Point, Farm Lodge, Rosemary and Cleughs Plain ...	140	155	295
Blue Hill	140	124	264
Sandy Bay	143	146	289
Longwood and Hutt's Gate ...	391	407	798
	1,904	2,091	3,995

The estimated population on 31st December, 1936, was 4,341.

Births and Deaths, 1932–1936.

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Births	152	116	101	150	134
Deaths	58	68	47	45	66
Infant mortality per 1,000 births ...	131·5	172·4	138·6	80·00	126·87

Still-births (not included in above) 8
Illegitimate births (included in above) 36
Deaths of infants under 1 year old 17

Digitized by Google

The population of Ascension as ascertained by the census taken in the year 1931 is classified as under:—

St. Helenians	152
Other British Residents	36
	188

The population on 31st December, 1936, was:—

St. Helenians	113
Other British Residents	42
	155

IV.—HEALTH.

The medical establishment of the Island during the year consisted of:—

Senior Medical Officer.
Medical Officer.
Dental Surgeon.
Sister-in-Charge.
Four Nurses.
Clerk-Dispenser.

The general health of the Island has been good with the exception of four cases of diphtheria of which two cases were fatal.

The school children were all medically examined and the routine of dental inspections continued.

The Civil Hospital in Jamestown has 17 beds. During the year 5,544 out-patients were seen at the hospital, and there were 177 in-patients. There is but little surgery in St. Helena, the bulk of the surgical work done consisting of minor operations and dental extractions.

The two dressing stations in the country at Sandy Bay and Hutt's Gate have been visited weekly throughout the year.

Vaccination of all children is carried out under the Vaccination Ordinance of 1854. Smallpox has never established a footing in the Island.

The Poor House, which is under the management of a Poor Relief Board, was visited weekly by the Senior Medical Officer. The health of the inmates has been good. The Lunatic Asylum was also visited weekly by the Senior Medical Officer and the health of the inmates has been good during the year.

All ships calling at the Island are boarded by the Port Medical Officer who gives pratique unless the ship is infected.

Digitized by Google

V.—HOUSING.

Financial provision has been made in the Estimates for 1937 for the construction of dwellings in Jamestown in relief of housing conditions, and application has been made for grants from the Colonial Development Fund for a similar purpose in the country districts. The high cost of building material and the poverty of the people are the chief causes of the unsatisfactory housing conditions in the Island. It is impracticable, therefore, without financial assistance adequately to bring about the desired improvements.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Agricultural and Horticultural Products.

The experimental exportation of lily bulbs (Lilium Longiflorum) continues to be promising.

The consignment despatched to Kew sold at very attractive prices and arrangements have been made whereby it is hoped to double in 1937 the quantity exported in 1936. The experiment has now reached a stage where powers to inspect plants and control disease, etc., must be regarded as justifiable.

Pyrethrum.—A small experimental consignment has been despatched to England for investigation.

Essential Oils.—A more detailed investigation is being undertaken.

Horticulture.—Particulars of the value of garden produce supplied to passing steamers are appended:—

	£
1932	339
1933	318
1934	368
1935	427
1936	578

Fibre Industry.—The London price of fibre has improved in the course of the year, and there are now nine mills at work.

Particulars of the production, export, and value of fibre and tow are appended:—

1936.	*Produced.*	*Exported.*	*Average price per ton. London.*
	Tons.	*Tons.*	£ s. d.
Fibre	850	804	17 8 4
Tow	426	425	13 4 2

Ascension.

At Green Mountain the Cable and Wireless Limited, possess a farm for the maintenance of imported animals, and gardens for the cultivation of vegetables. At the end of the year the stock consisted of 30 cattle, 507 sheep, and some pigs.

Digitized by Google

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following were the imports and exports for the year compared with 1935:—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1935	29,824	13,967
1936	32,836	18,166
Increase	3,012	5,339

Imports.

There was an increase in the value of imports principally under food, drink and tobacco and articles wholly or mainly manufactured, the principal decreases being in the importation of flour, drapery, petrol, oil and hardware.

The following table shows the value of the principal articles imported during the years 1935 and 1936 together with the decreases or increases:—

	1935.	*1936.*	*Decrease — Increase +*
	£	£	£
Butter...	568	701	+ 133
Confectionery	512	637	+ 125
Flour	3,931	3,451	— 480
Provisions	1,402	1,632	+ 230
Rice	1,561	2,225	+ 664
Sugar	1,414	1,967	+ 553
Tobacco and cigarettes	932	1,088	+ 156
Submarine cable	—	1,712	+ 1,712
Drapery, apparel, etc.	3,352	2,649	— 703
Motor cars and lorries and parts and accessories	668	1,539	+ 871
Petrol and oil	2,039	1,234	— 805
Hardware, machinery, etc.	2,090	1,449	— 641
Beer, wines and spirits	1,390	1,388	— 2

The undermentioned quantities are also recorded:—

		1935.	*1936.*	*Decrease — Increase +*
Beer, wines and spirits ...	gal.	6,588	6,037	— 551
Tobacco and cigarettes ...	lb.	5,180½	6,337	+ 1,156½

The countries of origin were as follows:—

	1935.	*1936.*
	£	£
United Kingdom	18,964	22,130
South Africa	2,303	2,824
Rest of Empire	4,062	4,562
United States of America	2,147	1,553
Other Foreign Countries	2,348	1,767

Importations from South Africa consisted mainly of grain, meal, drink, tobacco and coal.

Digitized by Google

Importations from Rest of Empire consisted mainly of rice, flour, butter, tea and cheese.

Importations from United States of America consisted mainly of meat, tea, milk and matches.

Exports.

The increase in the value of exports is accounted for by an increase in the market value of fibre and tow during the year.

Statistics of these exports during the year as compared with the year 1935 are as follows:—

	1935.		*1936.*	
	Tons.	£	*Tons.*	£
Fibre	857	9,782	804	12,989
Tow	319	2,005	425½	4,299
Rope and Twine ...	11	237	17½	417

The distribution of the total exports of the Colony were as follows:—

	1935.	*1936.*
	£	£
United Kingdom	12,195	15,570
South Africa	1,602	2,596
Argentine	170	—

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages for skilled and semi-skilled workmen vary from 2s. to 3s. 6d. per day.

The Government wage for adult unskilled labour is 2s. per day amounting to 12s. for a week of 45 hours, the half-day on Saturday counting as a full day.

In the flax mills the average daily rate for men is approximately 1s. 9d. for a nine-hour day. The average wages paid to women are approximately 1s. per day.

The number of persons employed in the flax mills is 324, and in the rope works 15.

In domestic service the monthly wage with board and lodging for housemaids varies from 10s. to £2, for cooks from 30s. to £2, and for male servants from 30s. to £4 15s.

Meat, including fowls, is obtainable at 1s. per lb.; fish is very cheap, but the supply is extremely limited and scarce in the country districts. Eggs vary according to season from 1s. 6d. to 2s. per dozen, fresh butter is 3s. per lb., and imported butter 1s. 8d. per lb.; fresh milk is 5d. per imperial pint, and the price of fresh vegetables varies with the supply which is very limited at certain seasons. Rice, which forms the staple article of diet of St. Helenians, is 2½d. per lb., and potatoes vary throughout the year from 6d. to 2s. per gallon of 7 lb.

Digitized by Google

From time to time accommodation is available for visitors, and St. Helena has attractions as a place of residence for those who seek a congenial climate and quietude. It is estimated that two people could live comfortably and in full enjoyment of all the Island has to offer on £500 to £550 a year. With a more limited range of activity two people could live on considerably less.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There was no change in the education system which consists of eight elementary schools and the Superintendent's weekly class for pupil teachers and others who wished to avail themselves of more advanced work.

Of these eight elementary or primary schools three are under Government control, viz.:—

The Boys' School in Jamestown,
The Girls' School in Jamestown,
The Country School at St. Paul's.

The other five are in receipt of grants-in-aid, viz.:—

The Hussey Charity School in Jamestown,
Half-Tree Hollow School—Hussey Charity Trustees,
Hutt's Gate School—Hussey Charity Trustees,
Sandy Bay School—St. Helena Benevolent Society,
Holbech Memorial School, Blue Hill—Diocesan.

Each year shows an increase in the number of children attending school, the number in the year under review reaching 785, of which 387 were boys, and 398 girls. In the Superintendent's class there were 10 pupils. The school which has the largest number is Hutt's Gate, where the number for 1936 was given as being 134, but which in January, 1937, had reached 148.

Relief has been given this school by Government in the addition of a new classroom and verandah, and by the Trustees who have added new desks and forms; but the growth of the school has made necessary the addition of yet another classroom to accommodate a fourth teacher.

The school at Sandy Bay has been greatly improved by the new infants' classroom and by the new forms and desks.

The general work of the school has gone on satisfactorily.

The weekly pupil teachers' class continues and is of real benefit to others besides teachers who are doing their four year's course.

The woodwork class at the Government Boys' School which is also available for the boys attending other schools continues its good work, and at the end of the year was able to exhibit some very well finished articles.

Digitized by Google

The Church Lads Brigade, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are doing a valuable work for the youth of the Island and naturally receive every encouragement from the authorities.

Welfare Institutions.

There are no public welfare institutions in the Island. The absence is in some measure compensated for by the local Friendly Societies of which a note will be found in the Annual Report for 1931—Colonial Report No. 1568. The particulars of the Societies are appended below—

ST. HELENA FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Name.	*Membership.*	*Invested Funds.*
	Men.	£
Ancient Order of Foresters	355	1,493
Mechanics' Society	434	1,022
Working Men's Christian Association ...	325	457
Poor Society	417	4,033
	Women.	
Church Provident Society for Women ...	510	1,058
	Children.	
Children's Benefit Society	230	130

These Societies offer medical and sick benefits and the subscription varies from 3d. to 1s. per week. The fees are a heavy drain on the meagre wages earned generally in the Island, and the fact is of importance in a general study of local economic conditions.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

There is a regular communication once a month with England and South Africa by the Union-Castle Intermediate steamers. In addition, an American steamer of the American-South African Line called on four occasions.

The vessels which called during the year were as follows:—

British vessels	32
British warships	3
American vessels—4 visits	4
Other foreign vessels	4
Yachts	2
	45

Sixty miles of roads are maintained by the Public Works Department, and although grades are steep and in some places narrow, the roads of the Island compare very favourably with those in other countries.

Digitized by Google

Seventy-nine motor cars and lorries are registered and licensed.

There is no wireless station in St. Helena, but there is a cable station with communication to all parts of the world.

The Empire Short-wave Broadcasting Service is received well in the Island.

There is regular postal communication each month between the Colony and England and South Africa. Mails are also made up as other occasions present themselves.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The Government Savings Bank is the only institution in the Colony.

The aggregate balances of depositors' accounts during the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	*Balance of Deposits at 31st December.*
	£
1932	20,620
1933	20,958
1934	21,200
1935	22,527
1936	23,744

The total number of depositors on 31st December, 1936, was 244 as compared with 229 on the same date in 1935.

The invested portion of the Savings Bank deposits at the end of the year is represented by Stock of the mean market value of £20,095.

By the St. Helena Coinage Order, 1925, all coins which under the Coinage Acts of 1870 and 1891 are legal tender in the United Kingdom, and all silver coins which under the Coinage Act, 1922, are legal tender in the Union of South Africa, are legal tender in the Island of St. Helena.

By the Weights and Measures Ordinance, 1905, the weights and measures for the time being lawfully in use in the United Kingdom and no others are to be used in St. Helena.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The usual programme of road works, the maintenance of water supplies of the Island, the drainage system in Jamestown and various minor works have been undertaken in the course of the year; an important item in the maintenance of water supplies being the general cleaning and repair of the Longwood waterworks.

Digitized by Google

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

In addition to all local Ordinances and Orders in force, the law of the Colony consists of so much of the law of England for the time being as is applicable in the light of local circumstances.

The Supreme Court of St. Helena, which is a Court of Record, was established by Order in Council of 13th February, 1839. Subsequent Orders extended its jurisdiction to Matrimonial and Divorce Causes. By an Order in Council of the 3rd October, 1935, it is lawful for the Supreme Court to be held before the Governor of the Colony or other proper person appointed by him; and the Governor may be assisted at his discretion by Assessors who must be Members of the Executive Council or Justices of the Peace.

There were two civil cases and six criminal cases before the Supreme Court during the year.

Summary jurisdiction is exercised by the Magistrate and Justices of the Peace. There were 158 cases reported to the Police. In 137 cases action was taken in the Court resulting in 57 convictions.

The Small Debts Court, which has jurisdiction up to sums not exceeding £25, is established by Ordinance No. 2 of 1905. Two cases were brought before the Court during the year as compared with four in 1935.

Gaol.—During the year 19 persons were committed to prison as compared with 17 in 1935.

Police.—There have been no serious criminal cases.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Eight Ordinances were passed during the year, of which the most important were the Water Supply Ordinance, the St. Helena Government Savings Bank Ordinance, repealing the Government Savings Bank Ordinance, 1895, the Customs Ordinance, 1936, repealing the Customs (Consolidation) Ordinance, 1926.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue collected during the year including a Grant-in-aid from the Imperial Treasury of £3,000 amounted to £23,198 being £5,748 in excess of the Estimates, and showing an increase of £2,109 over the revenue of the previous year.

The increase of revenue over the estimate was mainly attributable to large sales of St. Helena and Ascension postage stamps, namely increases of £3,418 and £4,272 respectively and to Customs duties (increase £437), Port and Marine, Wharfage

Digitized by Google

and Shipping Dues (£108), due to importations of petrol and paraffin being greater than the amount estimated for and to increased importations of cigarettes and exports of fibre and tow. There was a decrease of £2,500 under grant-in-aid from the estimated figure of £5,500.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Grants by Colonial Development Fund.*	*Grants-in-aid by His Majesty's Treasury.*	*Total Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£	£	£	£
1932 ...	13,817	560	13,500	27,877	18,906
1933 ...	13,548	—	5,000	18,548	18,617
1934 ...	21,974	—	2,500	24,474	23,792
1935 ...	21,089	—	—	21,089	20,487
1936 ...	20,198	—	3,000	23,198	19,569

The revenue for the year 1936 as compared with the preceding year is summarized hereunder:—

	1935.	*1936.*
	£	£
Customs	5,081	5,037
Port and Marine	1,511	1,498
Licences, Taxes, etc.	670	660
Fees of Court or Office and Reimbursements...	756	660
Post Office	5,814	4,462
Revenue from Government Properties ...	1,130	1,264
Interest	583	20
Miscellaneous	57	24
Ascension	5,487	6,573
Grant-in-aid	—	3,000
	21,089	23,198

The expenditure for the year as compared with the preceding year is as under:—

	1935.	*1936.*
	£	£
Pensions and Gratuities	1,213	1,026
Governor	1,129	1,289
Secretariat	1,113	1,063
Treasury, Customs, Port and Marine... ...	863	867
Post Office	967	682
Public Health	2,637	2,628
Education	980	1,000
Agriculture and Forestry	1,183	1,346
Police and Gaol...	690	824
Public Works Department and Recurrent ...	3,125	3,049
Miscellaneous	1,288	1,671
Ascension	2,266	2,225
Public Works Extraordinary	803	1,899
Unemployment Relief (mainly Flax Subsidy)	2,230	—
	20,487	19,569

Digitized by Google

The statement of the assets and liabilities of St. Helena as at 31st December, 1936, shows: assets £33,338, liabilities £25,796.

Public debt.

The outstanding balance in respect of the sum of £475 loaned from the Colonial Development Fund in the year 1930-1 for the improvement of the telephone system was repaid during the year. There is now no public debt.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands.

A note on the land tenures of the Island will be found in the Annual Report for 1934.

The distribution of land is as follows:—

	Number of Holdings.
Under 10 acres	414
Over 10 and under 50	57
Over 50 and under 100	9
Over 100 and under 500	7
Over 500 and under 1,000	2
Over 1,000	Nil.

The only legislation dealing with land is " The Conveyancing and Registration Ordinance, 1893," which simplifies conveyancing and provides for registration.

The area of the Island is approximately 30,000 acres of which 8,600 acres are regarded as cultivable.

XVII.—GENERAL.

The Governor of the Colony, Sir Spencer Davis, C.M.G., returned from leave on the 21st June and resumed the administration of the Government.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX.

Books on St. Helena of General Interest.

Title.	*Publishers or Agents.*	*Price.*
"A History of the Island of St. Helena," 1808, by T. H. Brooke. 2nd Edition, 1824.	Publishers to East India Company.	—
"St. Helena," by J. C. Mellis, 1875 ...	L. Reeve & Co., London.	£2 2s.
"St. Helena—the Historic Island," 1903, by E. L. Jackson.	Ward, Lock & Co., Ltd., London.	—
*"Napoleon in Exile," 1915, by Norwood Young. (Two Volumes).	Stanley Paul & Co., London.	£1 12s.
"St. Helena Who's Who," 1919, by Arnold Chaplin.	A. L. Humphreys, London.	—
"On board a Union Steamer," 1822, by Capt. S. P. Oliver.	W. H. Allen & Co., Ltd., London.	8s.
"Campbell's Political Survey of Great Britain," 1774.	—	—
"A Tour through St. Helena," by Capt. John Barnes, R.N., 1817.	J. M. Richardson, London.	—
"Six months on Ascension," by Mrs. Gill, 1878.	John Murray, London.	Out of print.
"Tracts relative to the Island of St. Helena," by Beatson, London, 1816.	G. and W. Nicol, and J. Booth, London.	—
"Extracts from Records of St. Helena," by H. R. Janish, C.M.G., 2nd Edition, 1908.	"Guardian" Printing Office, Jamestown.	—
"History of St. Helena," English Historical Review, by Sir William Foster, July, 1919.	—	—
"The Loss and Recapture of St. Helena," by C. R. Boxer, The Mariners Mirror No. 4, October, 1930.	—	—
"The Earliest Exile of St. Helena Fernao Lopez," by Hugh Clifford, Blackwoods Magazine, May, 1903.	—	—
"Report to the Secretary of State for India in Council on the Records of the India Office," by F. C. Danvers, 1888.	His Majesty's Stationery Office.	—
"The Africa Pilot," Part II, 8th Edition, 1930.	His Majesty's Stationery Office.	—
"A Historical Geography of the British Colonies," by Sir C. P. Lucas, Vol. III, Oxford, 1913.	—	—
"The Voyage of the Beagle," by Charles Darwin, Many Editions.	—	—
"Ste. Hélène," by E. Masselin, Henri Plon, Paris, 1862.	—	—
"St. Helena by a Bird of Passage," 1865.	Houlston and Wright, London.	—
"A Guide to St. Helena," by Joseph Lockwood, 1851.	Geo. Gibb, St. Helena.	—
"A Few Notes on St. Helena," by Benjamin Grant, 1883.	—	—

* This work contains a bibliography of 172 publications referring to the captivity of the Emperor Napoleon in St. Helena.

Digitized by Google

Title.	*Publishers or Agents.*	*Price.*
"A Description of the Island of St. Helena," Anonymous. 1805.	R. Phillips, London.	—
"Report on the Agricultural Resources of St. Helena," by D. Morris, Reprinted in 1906. (Cd. 3248, Colonial Report Misc. No. 38.)	His Majesty's Stationery Office.	3½d.
"Geological Notes on St. Helena, by various writers, with remarks on the Economic Geology of that Island, and Geological Map," by Sir Albert Kitson, C.M.G., C.B.E., April, 1931, (Colonial No. 66).	His Majesty's Stationery Office.	1s. 3d.
"Report on the Fisheries of St. Helena," by J. T. Cunningham, M.A., F.Z.S., 1910. (Cd. 4998, Colonial Report Misc. No. 69.)	His Majesty's Stationery Office.	1½d.
"Report on the Marine Molluscan Fauna of the Island of St. Helena," by Edgar A. Smith, 1890. Proceedings of Zoological Society of London, 1890, Part II, pp. 247–317.	—	—
"The Marine Fisheries and Invertebrates of St. Helena," by J. T. Cunningham, 1911.	—	—
"The Manatee of St. Helena," by T. H. Mortensen, Copenhagen, 1933.	—	—
"Ste. Hélène," par Octave Aubry ...	Flammarion, Paris.	25 francs.
"Island Life," by A. R. Wallace, 1880	MacMillan & Co., London.	—

Digitized by Google

(45854—48) Wt. 2695—3930—625 12/37 P. St. G 377/7.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. od. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. od. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps. [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 os. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams. O B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1827

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

PRINTED AN

To be purchased

Admiral HO

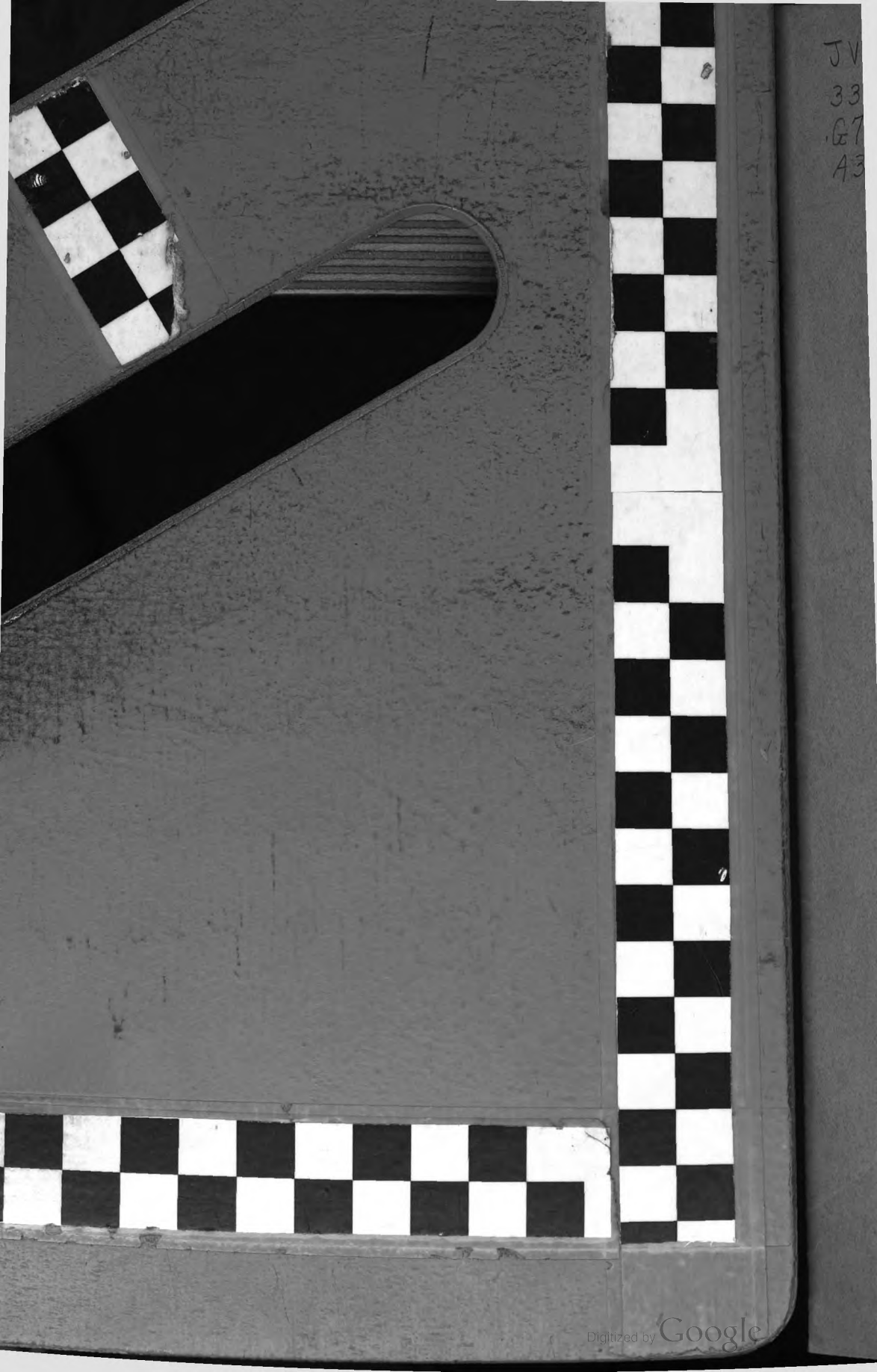
26 Va

G

(For R

and for

Digitized by Google


JV
33
.G7
A3
Digitized by Google

JV
33
.G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1826

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

GIBRALTAR, 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1717 (Price 1s. 0d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1779 (Price 9d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 9*d.* net

Digitized by Google

ADVERTISEMENT

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. od. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. od. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps. [Colonial No. III] £1 (£1 os. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. od. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

C[illegible] St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

[illegible] through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1826

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

GIBRALTAR, 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1717 (Price 1s. 0d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1779 (Price 9d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 9*d.* net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF GIBRALTAR FOR 1936

CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	3
III.	Population	3
IV.	Health	4
V.	Housing	5
VI.	Production	5
VII.	Commerce	6
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	6
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	7
X.	Communications and Transport	9
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	11
XII.	Public Works	11
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	12
XIV.	Legislation	12
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	13
XVI.	Miscellaneous	15
	Appendix: Publications	15
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Gibraltar is a narrow peninsula three miles in length and ¾ mile in breadth with a total area of 1⅞ square miles, situated in latitude 36°7′16″ North and longitude 5°21′13″ West, near the southern extremity of Spain, being joined to the mainland by a low sandy isthmus. It consists of a long high mountain, the ridge of which, from north to south, divides it into two unequal parts. The extreme height of the "Rock", as the mountain is commonly called, is 1,396 feet. The town is built on the western and southern sides, which face the Bay. The northern and eastern faces of the Rock are inaccessible cliffs, forming a series of rugged precipices at the foot of which, on the eastern side, confronting the Mediterranean, stands the small fishing village of Catalan Bay.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Sutherland
1-6-38
15205

Climate.

The general climate of Gibraltar is mild and temperate, though somewhat hot and oppressive during the months of July and August. The meteorological record for 1936 shows 64·7° F. as the mean maximum temperature, the highest shade temperature being 89° F. on the 28th of June, and the lowest 43° F. on the 25th of February, 2nd and 3rd of March. The rainy season is spread over the period from September to May; the annual average rainfall is 35 inches, but in 1936, 46·85 inches were registered, of which 10·88 inches fell in February.

History.

Gibraltar was known to the ancients as Mons Calpe, one of the Pillars of Hercules, the other being Mount Abyla, or Apes Hill, on the opposite coast of Africa. It was possessed successively by the Phoenicians, the Carthaginians, the Romans, and the Visigoths, but remained uninhabited till the Mohammedan invasion of Spain.

In 711 the Moorish Chief Tarik-Ibn-Zeyad landed on the Rock, and gave it the name of Gibel-Tarik, or Mountain of Tarik, of which the name of Gibraltar is a corruption. It remained in Moorish hands until 1309, when it was seized by the Spaniards. In 1333 it was again taken by the Moors, but was wrested from the Moslem dynasty in 1462 and reverted to the dominion of Spain.

In 1704 it was captured by the British forces under Admiral Sir George Rooke, during the War of the Spanish Succession, and was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, renewed by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783. Many attempts have been made to retake Gibraltar especially during the great siege in 1779-83, when General Eliott (afterwards Lord Heathfield) defended it against the united forces of Spain and France, but all have been unsuccessful and it has remained in British hands since its capture in 1704.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government is administered under Letters Patent of the 12th of September, 1922, by a Governor aided by an Executive Council composed of four official and three unofficial members. The power of legislation is vested in the Governor, who is also the General Officer Commanding the Garrison.

III.—POPULATION.

The estimated total civil population at the close of 1936 was 19,194 of whom 16,875 are fixed residents. These figures represent the population between sunset and sunrise.

Digitized by Google

The normal population was very considerably increased as a result of the military rising in Spain which occurred on the 18th of July. The number of refugees who poured into the Colony has been variously estimated, but it is thought probable that it was not less than nine or ten thousand. Many of these refugees were gradually evacuated to those parts of Spain which were held by the Government troops, while others were induced to return to their homes in the Nationalist zone. It is estimated that, at the end of the year, some 4,000 of the refugees remained in the Colony.

The number of births during the year was 412 of which 290 were boys and 192 girls. The birth rate per 1,000 was 23·39. The births refer to the fixed population only.

There were 335 deaths registered, and the crude death-rate was 19·02 per 1,000. The infantile mortality figure was 104·37 per 1,000 which is much higher than the figure recorded last year.

IV.—HEALTH.

Gibraltar has been fortunate in the absence of epidemic disease in serious form during 1936, in spite of the conditions which resulted from the political disturbances in Spain.

One hundred and seventy-five cases of notifiable infectious diseases were reported during the year, as compared with 261 in 1935. The absence of measles in epidemic form is responsible for the decrease, as all other important diseases have shown an increase.

Forty-four cases of diphtheria were recorded, 18 occurring during the last quarter of the year. The disease was of a mild type and only two deaths occurred.

Seventeen cases of enteric fever, with two deaths were reported, and here again the last quarter stands out with six cases.

Three hundred and sixty-five primary and 310 revaccinations were performed during the year. There were no objectors.

Thirty cases of pulmonary tuberculosis with 19 deaths were notified during the year, the death rate per 1,000 of population being 1·20. During the year an additional medical officer with special experience in the treatment of the disease has been appointed to the staff of the Colonial Hospital. An out-patient clinic for consultation, treatment and advice is to be opened early in 1937, and this is to be followed by a hospital for in-patient treatment.

Insect borne diseases are not endemic in Gibraltar; but, by reason of its land and sea communications with places where these exist, and as the yellow fever mosquito (*Aedes* (*Stegomyia*) *argenteus*), prevails, a continuous campaign against these insects is carried out. Other species met with in Gibraltar are *Culex pipiens* and *Theobaldia Longeareolata*.

Digitized by Google

Thanks to the courtesy of the Director of the Pasteur Institute at Tangier, it is now possible to undertake anti-rabic inoculations locally without having to send patients to that Institute as heretofore.

V.—HOUSING.

A Commission to enquire into the problem of Housing in the Colony was appointed by His Excellency the Governor on the 11th of August, 1936. The Commission met on 33 occasions and examined 31 witnesses. The members also paid a number of visits to the slum areas in the Colony and inspected various sites and premises to which witnesses invited attention.

Among the problems with which the Commissioners dealt may be mentioned the following:—

(i) Overcrowding.

(ii) Slum clearance and rehousing.

(iii) Finance.

(iv) The improvement of the housing of the working classes.

(v) Rent levels in the Colony.

(vi) The management of Crown Properties.

An extensive report and numerous recommendations were made upon all these points. All these may be found in a volume that has been published entitled " Report of a Commission of Inquiry on Housing and Rent Restriction, &c."

The majority of the wage-earning population live in tenement buildings and small flats consisting of two rooms and a kitchen. Overcrowding is prevalent. Elaborate records of all buildings, including the measurement of every room, have now been compiled by the Public Health Department. These are contained in special books from which every detail regarding sanitary conditions, lavatory accommodation, etc., can be obtained. The majority of the buildings occupied by the wage-earning classes are owned by the Crown but the leases are put out to tender. The Colonial Government has continued its policy of renovating any Crown properties which require reconstruction and a number were completely reconditioned during the year. A good number of privately-owned houses were also reconstructed and remodelled during the year.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

There is no land in the Colony available for agricultural development, and fishing by local boats is limited to the provision of supplies for local consumption.

Digitized by Google

VII.—COMMERCE.

The staple trade is the supply of coal, fuel oil, stores and fresh water to shipping, as Gibraltar is pre-eminently a coaling station. A fair amount of business is also carried on in connexion with transit cargo to Morocco and Spain.

It will be recollected that new coaling machinery was put into operation during 1932, and, with effect from the 4th of May of that year, vessels calling solely for bunkers were exempted from the payment of port dues. This concession is not prejudiced if the steamer also takes in water, ships' stores and fresh provisions, or temporarily disembarks transit passengers for sightseeing purposes, provided that a minimum quantity of coal is taken according to the following scale:—

	Tons.
Vessels of register tonnage 10-50	10
Vessels of register tonnage 50-500	30
Vessels of register tonnage over 500	50

The installation of machinery and the concession with regard to port dues, together with the general trade revival, has resulted in a steady improvement in the coaling trade of the Colony. The increase of bunker coal supplied to shipping continues, when compared with previous years as well as the number of vessels calling for bunkers.

Statistics of imports and exports (except such as are necessary for revenue purposes) are not kept, the only dutiable goods being wines, spirits, malt liquors, perfumed spirits, motor spirit and tobacco.

The only industries in Gibraltar are connected with shipping and the manufacture of tobacco. At the foundries and yards situated on the North Front, boats, lighters, and steam launches are built and repaired, and extensive repairs are often carried out to both hulls and machinery of vessels calling here.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The wages paid by the Public Works Department are approximately as follows:—

Labourers 7d. per hour for a 50-hour week.
Artisans 8¾d.-1s. per hour for a 50-hour week.
Leading carpenters, &c., are paid ½d. or 1d. per hour more than the artisans employed on the particular work.

The wages paid by private employers to similar classes of employees are:—

Labourers 45 pesetas per week for a 48-hour week.
Artisans 60 pesetas per week for a 48-hour week.
Leading carpenters, &c., 75 pesetas per week for a 48-hour week.

Digitized by Google

The value of the peseta for the first seven months of the year was just under 7d., but since the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War no quotations have been given.

The staple food of the labouring classes consists of bread, coffee, olive oil, and vegetables, the daily cost for a man and his wife being about five pesetas.

It is difficult to give any very comprehensive figure with regard to the cost of living for Government officials appointed from outside the Colony. The expenses of a married couple without children, provided they lived in a Government quarter, might not exceed £450 per annum, but such a figure would not allow of any provision for leave expenses, medical and dental attendance, transport expenses, and the cost of furniture on first arrival. Hotel charges give some indication of the cost of living and these range between 15s. and 20s. per diem in winter and 12s. and 17s. 6d. per diem in summer according to the class of establishment.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education.

Under Ordinance No. 7 of 1917, education is compulsory in the case of children between the ages of 5 and 14 years.

Since the year 1921, the Governor has been advised on educational matters by a Board of Education under the Chairmanship of the Colonial Secretary.

The Government grant-in-aid per pupil in average attendance in efficient day schools during the school year is £3 10s. and the total amount paid for the year ended 31st December, 1936, was £6,208. A temporary emergency grant of £750 was paid in addition.

Books and equipment are issued to pupils free of charge, and for this purpose a special grant is made to the several school committees ranging, according to standard, from 2s. to 16s. for each child appearing on the roll on the last day of the scholastic year. The total amount paid for the year ended 31st December, 1936, was £746. On behalf of the schools, the Government also paid £90 to the City Council for sanitary water and £243 for rent of certain school premises. Government-aided elementary schools are exempted from the payment of rates.

The total cost to the Government in respect of education was therefore £8,037 exclusive of a grant of £240 towards handicraft classes, and £160 towards classes in domestic economy. The payment of "school pence" is voluntary, and the receipts from this source are practically negligible.

There are nine school buildings, containing 13 Government-aided schools for primary education, 11 of which are Roman Catholic and two Hebrew.

Digitized by Google

The Roman Catholic schools are conducted by the Christian Brothers and Nuns of the Order of Loreto, and the Hebrew schools by lay teachers, the various schools being under the direct management of local committees.

The total number of scholars on the registers was 2,951, and the average number in attendance during the year was 2,468.

Since 1925, Government has made an annual grant of £240 to the Christian Brothers in respect of woodwork classes which are open to boys of all religious denominations. A special building has been erected, fitted with the machinery and tools requisite for woodwork and metal work, and all boys taking courses in manual work are taught to make proper drawings. They also receive special training in drawing suitable for those taking up a trade or profession.

The largest of the elementary girls' schools, St. Mary's, is equipped with a model kitchen, in which instruction in domestic economy is given by a highly qualified teacher. The Colonial Government makes an annual grant of £160 towards the cost of these classes.

Only two candidates presented themselves for the examination in English for Assistant Teachers. Both were taking the examination for the first time and both were successful, one obtaining Honours.

Whenever possible during the year a Nursing Sister was sent to visit the schools and inspect the children. Twenty-eight visits of inspection were paid. Four hundred and seventy-eight children received dental treatment and 185 medical treatment. The school clinic at the Colonial Hospital was attended by 129 children.

There are four secondary schools in the Colony, viz.:—

Line Wall College, for boys, conducted by the Christian Brothers.

Two Convents, for girls, under the Nuns of the Loreto Order.

Brympton, a Church of England school for girls, managed by a local committee and conducted by the teachers.

In these educational establishments pupils are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually. In addition to the above, there are a few private schools with about 100 pupils, but the instruction given is mainly of an elementary character.

Welfare Institutions.

Five institutions are established in the Colony which make provision for orphans and for destitute persons of both sexes.

Digitized by Google

One of these, which is under the control of the City Council and to which the Colonial Government contributes an annual grant, also reserves a certain number of beds for tuberculosis cases. Various Friendly Societies have branches in the Colony.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Postal.

British and Continental mails are forwarded and received daily by overland mail route—via Spain and France—and there is a daily service in connection with this mail service, between Gibraltar and the Spanish town of Algeciras, for which the Colonial Government pays the Algeciras-Gibraltar Ferry Boats Company under contract an annual subsidy of £500.

Correspondence for Egypt and places eastward of Suez is forwarded weekly by Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company steamers, and the Orient Line steamers also carry mails for Port Said, Colombo, and Australia.

Ship mails for Malta, Algiers, and Oran are made up and despatched by merchant steamers on every practicable opportunity and mails for Morocco are carried by the Bland Line steamers which maintain a daily service to Tangier.

There is also a parcel post service with the United Kingdom, and parcels may be sent to nearly all the countries in the Postal Union.

Before the outbreak of hostilities in Spain, overland mails from Gibraltar reached London and vice versa in about three and a half days. Since then, the arrival of mails has been confined to those days on which mail-carrying steamers reach Gibraltar homeward or outward bound (usually Mondays and Tuesdays), although mails also arrive at irregular intervals via Tangier. There is, however, a daily air mail service which takes two and a half days.

Telegraphs.

The Government land lines connecting Gibraltar with the Spanish towns of San Roque, Cadiz, Malaga, and Cordoba are worked by Cable & Wireless, Ltd. At the Company's Gibraltar station telegrams are accepted for all parts of the world.

Commercial and private messages for transmission by the Naval wireless station to merchant vessels at sea in the neighbourhood are also accepted at the offices of Cable & Wireless Ltd., and, similarly, wireless messages received from ships are delivered by that Company.

Telephones.

There are no telephones under Colonial Government control. A telephone service of the Strowzer Automatic Exchange type was installed in 1926 for the City Council of Gibraltar by the

Digitized by Google

Peel Connor Telephone Works of Coventry, of which the General Electric Company are the proprietors. This service was inaugurated in October, 1926, and telephone communication has now been established with the United Kingdom, France, Holland, Switzerland, Portugal, and other European countries, as well as with the United States of America, South America, Canada, Australia, Egypt and India.

The local Naval and Military Departments have their own lines which are connected with the City Council exchange.

Roads.

The upkeep of roads is in the hands of the City Council in whom they are vested by law. The length of road open for traffic is five and a quarter miles in the City, or North District, four miles in the South District, and about four and a half miles in the North Front and Catalan Bay District.

Roads in the City are narrow; those in the other districts are fairly wide. All are in excellent condition and are suitable for motor traffic.

There are no railways or tramways in Gibraltar.

Shipping.

Owing to its geographical position, Gibraltar is extensively used as a port of call and a coaling station by vessels of every nationality.

The following table shows the number and tonnage of ships which entered Gibraltar during 1936:—

Steamers.		*Sailing Vessels.*		*Total.*	
Number.	*Tonnage.*	*Number.*	*Tonnage.*	*Number.*	*Tonnage.*
3,598	10,858,254	1,373	33,974	4,971	10,892,228

As compared with 1935, there was a net decrease of 1,751 in the total number of vessels entering the port, with a decrease of 1,071,620 in tonnage. The decrease comprised 778 steamers and 973 sailing vessels. The principal lines which call at Gibraltar are:—

Weekly.—The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.

Fortnightly.—Orient Line, Anchor Line, Moss Line, Ellerman Line, Westcott and Laurance Line, Power Steamship Company, MacAndrews Hall Lines, Nippon Yusen Kaisha Line, Hijos de Ramon A. Ramos Line, Oldenburg-Portugiesische, Royal Netherlands Steamship Company, the Rotterdam Lloyd, Bibby Line, Henderson Line, the Export American Line, and Italia Cosulich Line.

Monthly.—Cunard Line, Société Générale de Transports Maritimes à Vapeur, Societa Anonima di Navigazione Neptunia, and Union Castle Line.

Digitized by Google

There is also a daily steamer service between Gibraltar and the town of Algeciras on the opposite side of the Bay, and Messrs. Bland's Line of steamers maintain communication between Gibraltar and Moroccan ports.

The length of passage from London to Gibraltar is about four and a half days.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are four private banks, which have correspondents in all the principal cities of the world and offer every facility for the transaction of banking business, viz.:—

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), Head Office, 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

The Crédit Foncier d'Algerie et de Tunisie, Head Office, 43 Rue Cambon, Paris: London Branch, 18, St. Swithin's Lane, E.C.4.

A. L. Galliano, of Gibraltar.

Thos. Mosley & Co., of Gibraltar.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks in the Colony.

Currency.

The legal tender of the Colony is in sterling denominations, and the accounts in Government Departments are so kept, but Spanish currency circulated freely until the outbreak of hostilities in Spain.

The rate for conversion of British into Spanish currency was governed by the Stock Exchange at Madrid and telegraphed daily to the banks at Gibraltar, until the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War in July, the rates being nominal since then. The average for the first seven months of the year was 37 pesetas to the pound sterling.

Colonial Government currency notes are in circulation to the value of £170,000. The bulk of these notes are of the new issue. The issue is governed by the Currency Note Ordinance, 1927, and are of the following values:—£5, £1 and 10s.

Weights and Measures.

The weights and measures in common use are the same as the Imperial weights and measures but litres are also commonly used as a measure of capacity.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The public works programme for 1936 included the reconstruction of three Crown properties as tenement buildings, the reconditioning of the cattle sheds at North Front, the improvement of bathing facilities at Camp Bay and the construction of a new meteorological station.

Digitized by Google

The renovation of the few roads and paths which are under the control of the Colonial Government was also continued. The vast majority of the roads in Gibraltar are, however, vested in the City Council.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

For the purpose of the administration of justice two Courts are established in the Colony:—

A Supreme Court presided over by the Chief Justice, and a Police Court presided over by Justices of the Peace.

The Police Force of the Colony has, in addition to the Chief of Police and Assistant Chief of Police, an establishment of five inspectors, and 87 other ranks.

There is only one prison in the Colony. The health of the prisoners throughout the year under review was very satisfactory, hospital treatment being required in only two cases. The daily average number of prisoners during the year was 15.

The number of juvenile offenders brought before the Courts in Gibraltar is negligible and the offences with which they are charged are in every case trivial. In most of these cases fines are inflicted and, in rare cases in which juveniles undergo imprisonment, arrangements are made to keep them entirely apart from adult offenders.

The number of convictions before the Courts of Summary Jurisdiction during the year 1936 was 747 an increase of 80 as compared with 1935 and of 221 as compared with 1934. Of this total 17 were offences against the person, 31 for offences against property, the remaining 699 being for other offences.

XIV—LEGISLATION.

The seven Ordinances enacted during 1936 were:—

1. Revised Edition of the Laws (Annual Supplements) Ordinance, 1936.
2. Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936.
3. Police (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936.
4. Forgery (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936.
5. Coinage Offences Ordinance, 1936.
6. Fees (Collection) Ordinance, 1936.
7. Ordinance to amend the Revenue Ordinance and further to amend the law in regard to wireless licences.

There is no legislative provision for health insurance, old age pensions, &c., in the Colony.

Compensation for accidents is provided for under the Employers' Liability Ordinance, 1924.

Digitized by Google

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years were as follows:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1932	239,209	151,038
1933	195,401	166,059
1934	245,858	275,644
1935	216,232	182,296
1936	211,478	179,864

Normal revenue amounted to £211,478 while normal expenditure totalled £179,864. Thus normal revenue exceeded normal expenditure by £31,614, which may be regarded as a very satisfactory result.

The net excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st of December, 1936, exclusive of the Reserve Fund of £200,000, amounted to £239,801 as compared with a figure of £208,186 at the end of the previous year. There is no public debt.

The revenue of the Colony is principally derived from receipts from port dues and from import duties on wines, spirits, malt liquors, perfumed spirits, motor spirit, and tobacco.

During the year 1936 port dues yielded £13,673, while the revenue derived from the various import duties amounted to £98,125.

Other items which contributed substantially towards the revenue for the year were:—

	£
Licences, excise and internal revenue not otherwise classified	12,880
Fees of court or office, payments for specific services, and reimbursements-in-aid ...	24,409
Rents of Government property	18,675
Interest on invested funds	14,555

Customs Tariff (Summarized).

The present Customs Tariff is as follows:—

	Rates of duty.	
	Full Rate.	*Preferential Rate.*
1. Malt Liquors:—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
For every gallon ...	0 0 10	0 0 7
If introduced in bottle there are additional duties as follows:—		
For every dozen imperial or reputed quart bottles ...	0 1 0	

Digitized by Google

	Rates of duty. Full Rate. £ s. d.	Preferential Rate. £ s. d.
For every dozen imperial or reputed pint bottles	0 0 6	
2. Motor Spirit:—		
Such duty as may be fixed by the Governor by Order in the Gazette.		
Present duty, per gallon	0 0 6	
3. Spirits, Liqueurs, Perfumed Spirits, etc.:—		
For every proof gallon of spirits other than manufactured spirits imported in casks ...	0 12 0	0 10 0
For every proof gallon of manufactured spirits (brandy, gin, rum and whisky) when imported in casks	0 11 0	0 9 0
For every gallon of liqueurs or cordials, irrespective of strength	0 18 0	0 15 0
For every gallon of perfumed spirits, irrespective of strength	0 13 4 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem* whichever is the greater.	0 10 0 or 7½ per cent. *ad valorem* whichever is the greater.
4. Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes:—		
Manufactured:—		
Cigarettes, per lb. ...	0 1 6	0 1 0
With an additional duty per 100 cigarettes or part thereof ...	0 0 5	
Other manufactured tobacco, per lb. ...	0 2 0	0 1 8
Unmanufactured:—		
Tobacco, per lb. ...	0 0 5	0 0 4
5. Wines, duties on:—		
If introduced in cask, per gal.	0 1 0	0 0 10
If introduced in bottle, per gal.	0 3 0	0 2 0

Digitized by Google

At present the preferential rates are granted in respect of articles not less than 25 per cent. of the cost of which has been expended within the Empire, except in the case of tobacco, in which instance the full preferential rate is only granted to consignments grown and manufactured within the Empire, a mean of the preferential and full rates being charged in respect of tobacco manufactured within the Empire of foreign grown tobacco.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The publicity campaign designed to bring before the public the advantages of Gibraltar as a tourist resort and travel centre was continued during the year. The outbreak of the disturbances in Spain, however, caused a very appreciable decline in the number of cruising steamers and of tourists visiting the Colony.

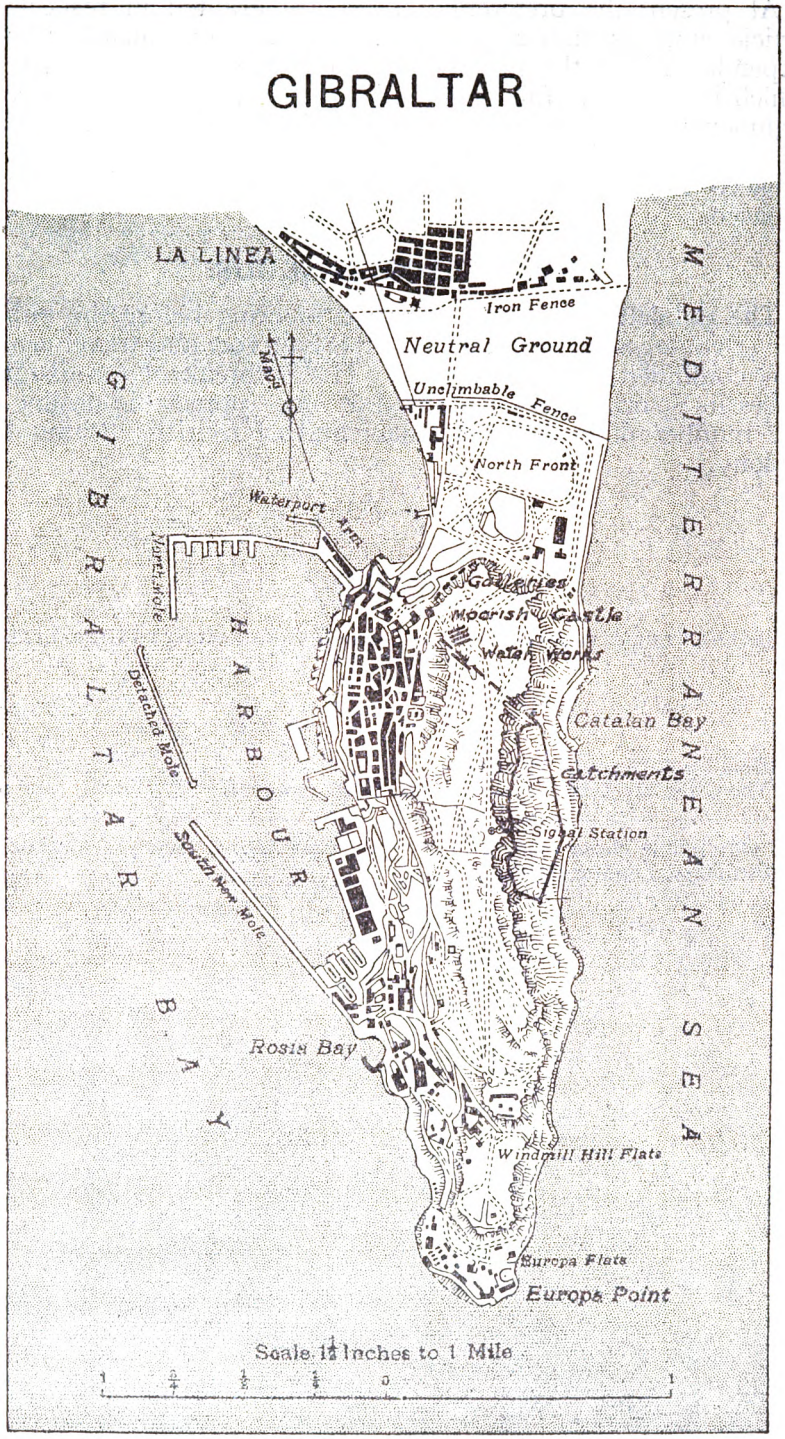
APPENDIX.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST RELATING TO GIBRALTAR.

Title.	*Price.*
	s. *d.*
*Blue Book (Annual) to 1936	5 0
*The Gibraltar Directory and Guide Book (Annual)	4 0

* Obtainable from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

Digitized by Google



45752—48) Wt. 2668—3913 625 11/37 P. St. G. 377/7

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937).
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST.
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State 1or the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80,
or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1826

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

J
33
G
A

Digitized by Google

JV
33
.G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1825

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

HONG KONG, 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1712 (Price 2s. 0d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1775 (Price 2s. 6d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN HONG KONG)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1938
Price 1s. 3d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)

Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)

Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)

Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)

Third Edition [Colonial No 138] 9d. (10d)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)

First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)

First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)

First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments

Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

...through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1825

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

HONG KONG, 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1712 (Price 2s. 0d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1775 (Price 2s. 6d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN HONG KONG)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 1s. 3d. net

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Southern
3-24-38
15-205

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE COLONY OF HONG KONG FOR THE YEAR 1936.

CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
I	Geography, including Climate and History	1
II	Government	3
III	Population and Births and Deaths	4
IV	Public Health	5
V	Housing	12
VI	Production	14
VII	Commerce	17
VIII	Wages and the Cost of Living	24
IX	Education and Welfare Institutions	27
X	Communication and Transport	30
XI	Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures	34
XII	Public Works	36
XIII	Justice and Police	41
XIV	Legislation	45
XV	Public Finance and Taxation	47
	Appendix	52

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Chapter I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

The Colony of Hong Kong is situated off the south-eastern coast of China between latitude 22° 9′ and 22° 17′ N. and longitude 114° 5′ and 114° 18′ E. The island is about eleven miles long and two to five miles in breadth, its circumference being about 27 miles and its area 32 square miles. It consists of an irregular ridge of lofty hills rising to a height of nearly 2,000 feet above sea level, stretching nearly east and west, with few valleys of any extent and little ground available for cultivation.

2. The island of Hong Kong was ceded to Great Britain in January, 1841, the cession being confirmed by the Treaty of Nanking in August, 1842. The charter bears the date of 5th April, 1843. The Kowloon peninsula and Stonecutter's Island were ceded to Great Britain under the Convention signed at Peking in October, 1860, and under the Convention signed at Peking in July, 1898, the area shown as the New Territories including Mirs Bay and Deep Bay was leased to Great Britain by the Government of China for 99 years. The total area of the Colony including the New Territories is about 390 square miles.

3. The importance of Hong Kong has grown with the increase of China's trade with foreign countries. It is now in respect of tonnage entered and cleared one of the largest ports in the world. It is the most convenient outlet for the produce of South China as well as for the incessant flow of Chinese emigration to the Netherlands East Indies, Malaya and elsewhere. It is also the natural distributing centre for imports into China from abroad.

4. The Colony is not primarily a manufacturing centre, the most important of its industries being those connected directly or indirectly with shipping, such as dock and warehouse, banking and insurance undertakings. Sugar refining and cement manufacture are also major industries, and in recent years considerable quantities of knitted goods, electric torches and batteries, and rubber shoes have been produced and exported.

5. The climate of Hong Kong is sub-tropical, the winter being normally cool and dry and the summer hot and humid; the seasons are marked by the prevalence of the S.W. monsoon in summer and the N.E. monsoon in winter. The temperature seldom rises above 95° F. or falls below 40° F. The average rainfall is 85.16 inches, May to September being the wettest months. In spring and summer the humidity of the atmosphere is often very high, at time exceeding 95% with an average over the whole year of 79%. The typhoon season may be said to last from June to October though typhoons occasionally occur before and after this period.

Digitized by Google

6. The rainfall for 1936 was 69.77 inches. The mean temperature of the air was 71.8° against an average of 71.9°. The maximum gust velocity of the wind was at the rate of 132 m.p.h. from E. on August 17th.

7. The development of Hong Kong as an Airport was a feature of the year. A weekly mail and passenger service by Imperial Airways between Hong Kong and Penang, connecting with the London-Singapore-Australia service, was inaugurated with the arrival on 24th March, of the R.M.A. "Dorado".

On 5th November, a regular mail and passenger service between Hong Kong, Canton and Shanghai was inaugurated by the China National Aviation Corporation.

On 23rd October, the Pan American Airways' "Philippine Clipper" arrived in Hong Kong on an experimental trans-Pacific flight.

8. A Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies "to investigate the whole question of Mui Tsai in Hong Kong and Malaya and of any surviving practices in those territories of transferring women and children for valuable consideration, whether on marriage or adoption, or in any other circumstances, and to report to the Secretary of State on any legislative or other action which they may consider practicable and desirable in relation to these matters", and consisting of Sir Wilfrid Woods, Miss Picton-Turbervill and Mr. C. A. Willis, arrived in the Colony on 14th May. After completing its investigations the Commission left Hong Kong on 6th June.

9. His Excellency the Governor, Sir Andrew Caldecott, Kt., C.M.G., C.B.E., paid an official visit to Canton from 17th to 19th September.

The visit was returned by His Excellency General Huang Mu Sung, Chairman of the Kwangtung Provincial Government, and His Honour Mr. Tsang Yang Fu, Mayor of Canton, who arrived in Hong Kong on 4th November and left on 6th November.

10. His Excellency Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Little, K.C.B., arrived in the Colony on 9th January to assume the post of Commander-in-Chief, China Station, in succession to Admiral Sir Frederic Dreyer, K.C.B., C.B.E.

11. The Hon. Mr. N. L. Smith returned to the Colony on 26th November to assume the post of Colonial Secretary in succession to Sir Thomas Southorn, K.B.E., C.M.G. who departed on leave on 2nd May prior to assuming the post of Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Gambia.

12. Among the Honours conferred by His Majesty during the course of the year were:—

C.M.G. The Hon. Mr. Edwin Taylor.
O.B.E. (Civil Division) Dr. W. B. A. Moore.
M.B.E. Dr. R. McLean Gibson.

Digitized by Google

Chapter II.

Government.

The Government is administered under Letters Patent of 14th February, 1917, and Royal Instructions of the same and subsequent dates, by a Governor aided by an Executive Council, composed of six official and three unofficial members, and by a Legislative Council composed of nine official and eight unofficial members. Prior to 1928 the numbers of the Legislative Council members were seven and six respectively. The six official members of the Executive Council are the Senior Military Officer, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney General, the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, the Colonial Treasurer, all of whom are members ex-officio, and the Director of Public Works, appointed by the Governor. The three unofficial members, one of whom is Chinese, are appointed by the Governor. The six official members of the Executive Council are also members of the Legislative Council; the other three official members of this Council, who are appointed by the Governor, are the Inspector General of Police, the Harbour Master, and the Director of Medical Services. Of the unofficial members of the Legislative Council two are appointed by the Governor on the nomination respectively of the Justices of the Peace and of the Chamber of Commerce; the Governor also appoints the remaining members three of whom are Chinese. Appointment in the case of unofficial members is for five years for the Executive and four years for the Legislative Council.

2. The Urban Council composed of five official and eight unofficial members has power to make by-laws under the Public Health (Food) Ordinance, the Public Health (Sanitation) Ordinance and the Public Health (Animals and Birds) Ordinance in matters appertaining to public health, subject to an overriding power in the Legislative Council.

3. There are a number of advisory boards and committees such as the Board of Education, Harbour Advisory Committee, Labour Advisory Board, etc., composed of both official and unofficial members. They are frequently consulted and are of much assistance to the Government.

4. The English Common Law forms the basis of the legal system, modified by Hong Kong Ordinances of which an edition revised to 1923 has been published. The law as to civil procedure was codified by Ordinance No. 3 of 1901. The Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act 1890 regulates the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in Admiralty cases.

5. The daily administration is carried out by the twenty-eight Government departments, all officers of which are members of the Civil Service. The most important of the

Digitized by Google

purely administrative departments are the Secretariat, Treasury, Secretariat for Chinese Affairs, Post Office, Harbour, the Imports and Exports, Police and Prisons departments. There are seven legal departments, including the Supreme Court and the Magistracies. Two departments, Medical and Sanitary, deal with public health, one, Education, with education; and one, the largest of all the Government departments, Public Works, is concerned with roads, buildings, waterworks, piers and analogous matters.

6. There have been no changes in the system of Government in the year under review.

Chapter III.

Population and Births and Deaths.

Variation in population in Hong Kong is more dependent on immigration and emigration than on births and deaths. Movements to and from the Colony are influenced by events in China and owing to the large numbers who come and go daily it is impossible to give more than a very rough estimate of the actual population, except during census years.

2. The following table shows the estimated population for the Colony for the middle of 1936.

Non-Chinese (mostly resident in Victoria and Kowloon).	21,832
Chinese in Victoria	382,119
Chinese in Hong Kong Villages	50,605
Chinese in Kowloon and New Kowloon	327,858
Chinese in junks and sampans	100,000
Chinese in New Territories	105,776
Total	988,190

3. During the year 2,977,205 persons entered and 2,987,772 persons left the Colony, making a daily average of 8,134 arrivals and 8,163 departures. The daily average for 1935 was 9,171 arrivals and 9,348 departures.

4. Since 1932 registration of Births and Deaths in the New Territories has been more fully enforced. The introduction of the new Births and Deaths Ordinance in the latter half of 1934 by improving facilities for registration on the one hand and checking on the other brought about an appreciable increase in registrations. This was particularly noticeable in the New Territories where the births registered during 1936 were 3,317 as compared to 587 in 1932.

Digitized by Google

5. The number of births registered was:—

	1935.	*1936.*
Chinese	24,510	26,853
Non-Chinese	527	530
Total	25,037	27,383*

* Includes 272 registered after 12 months.

6. The deaths registered among the civil population number 26,356 (Including 976 stillbirths) giving a crude death rate of 26.6 per mille as compared with 22.90 for the previous year.

	Deaths.	*Estimated Population.*	*Death rate per mille population.*
Non-Chinese	236	21,832	10.8
Chinese	26,120	966,358	27.0

There were 17 deaths among H.M. Forces during the year.

7. The number of deaths of infants under one year was Chinese 9,905, Non-Chinese 19. If the figures for Chinese births represented the total births, which they do not, the infantile mortality figure for the Chinese would be 372.42 as compared with 316.36 in the previous year. The infantile mortality figure among non-Chinese was 38.83 as compared with 56.92 in 1935.

Chapter IV.

Public Health.

In the absence of some general system of registration of sickness, the only sources of information available for gauging the state of the public health in this Colony are the returns relating to deaths, the notifications of infectious diseases and the records of Government and Chinese hospitals. Judging from the death returns the health of the Colony was not quite so good as that of the previous year. The crude death rate was 26.68 per mille as compared with 22.90 for 1935.

2. Respiratory diseases accounted for 39.70 per cent of the total deaths, the percentage for 1935 was 41.62. The principal diseases causing death were broncho-pneumonia, pulmonary tuberculosis, bronchitis, infantile diarrhoea and diarrhoea. The overcrowded houses, the expectorating habits of the people and poverty furnish sufficient explanation for the prevalence of respiratory troubles.

Digitized by Google

3. *Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*—This disease continues to rank second to broncho-pneumonia as the principal cause of death. It is probable that some of the cases of the latter were of tuberculous origin. The total number of deaths was 2,416; that for 1935 was 2,237. The death rate per mille was 2.44 as compared with 2.31 for 1935.

4. There is need for more hospital or infirmary accommodation for tuberculosis patients, especially for those of the poorer classes.

5. *Malaria.*—Owing to efficient drainage methods this disease has disappeared from the greater part of the urban districts. It still persists, however, in the suburbs and in the rural areas. There are parts of the New Territories where the spleen rate is as high as 41 per cent.

6. Malaria not being a notifiable disease the incidence figures are unknown. The cases admitted to the Government Hospitals numbered 581 as compared to 384 in the previous year. The percentage of deaths to cases admitted was 3.6%. Among the Chinese Hospitals there were 1,341 admissions with a case mortality rate of 18 per cent.

7. The total number of deaths attributed to this disease was 503, giving a death rate 0.50 per mille over the whole population. The low death rate is, of course, due to the fact that the great bulk of the population residing in the drained urban area is not subject to risks of infection. If figures for local districts were available it would be found that in some areas the incidence and death rates were very considerable.

8. During the year the Malaria Bureau continued its investigations into the life history, habits and carry powers of the local anophelines. The results obtained were both interesting and instructive. As in previous years there was no obstruction from the local Chinese, on the contrary they took an interest in the proceedings and showed their eagerness to be of assistance. The Chinese Inspectors have shown ability and zeal.

9. The Bureau co-operated with the military authorities, the Royal Air Force, the Sanitary Department, the Public Works Department and the construction engineers at the Shing Mun Dam.

At the Shing Mun Dam construction works where more than 2,000 labourers were employed the casualty rate from malaria continued to remain at a very low figure. The daily average percentage of workers off duty from sickness was less than five.

Infectious Diseases.

10. During the year there were reported 23 cases of smallpox 123 cases of cerebro-spinal fever, 375 cases of diphtheria and 418 cases of enteric. There were no cholera cases.

Digitized by Google

11. *Smallpox.*—Every year in the cold season this disease manifests itself in outbreaks which are sometimes sporadic, sometimes epidemic. Whatever the prevalence there is always a tendency for the morbidity rate to decline or disappear with the advent of summer. In the year under review there were 23 cases and 16 deaths as compared with 61 and 44 respectively in 1935. 11 cases only were treated in hospital; the remainder did not come under the notice of the authorities until after death.

12. The vaccination campaign was continued and during the year 274,784 persons were vaccinated. Valuable assistance was afforded by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and by the Chinese Public Dispensaries. Both bodies engaged in active propaganda and through their efforts many were persuaded who otherwise would have kept aloof. The various sections of the Brigade again carried out street vaccination with excellent results.

13. The Chinese have a preference for vaccination being done in the spring, which they regard as the most auspicious season. For a month or two after Chinese New Year the Chinese Public Dispensaries are crowded with children waiting to be vaccinated.

14. Many Chinese still hold the opinion that the herbalist treatment of smallpox gives better results than the methods adopted by practitioners qualified in Western medicine. An analysis of the statistics of (*a*) the Tung Wah Infectious Diseases Hospital where only herbalist treatment is carried out and (*b*) the Government Infectious Diseases Hospital where western treatment only is provided shows that this view is not correct.

15. *Plague.*—For the last seven years no cases of plague have been reported in Hong Kong. The disappearance of this disease not only from this Colony but from the greater part of China and its decline throughout the world are due to factors which are not understood.

16. Systematic rat-catching and periodical cleansing of houses were carried out throughout the year. The total number of rats collected was 212,947 of which 17,967 were taken alive, as compared with 192,251 and 21,820 in 1935. The number collected each year shows that there is no diminution in the rat population. All the rats collected were sent to the Public Mortuary for examination. None was found infected.

17. *Cerebro-spinal Fever.*—Altogether 123 cases were reported with 65 deaths. No special foci of infection were discovered and few instances where one could trace the source of infection. The cases were treated in the general hospitals without any instance of spread of infection. Sera manufactured at the Bacteriological Institute were used therapeutically.

18. *Diphtheria.*—With regard to diphtheria there is little to be said. The cases were sporadic and the sources of infection were seldom discovered. 375 cases were reported as compared with 266 in 1935.

Digitized by Google

19. *Enteric.*—What has been said of diphtheria applies to enteric. The incubation period being so long and the possible sources of infection so numerous there is little chance of tracing in any cases the source of infection. 418 cases were reported as compared with 319 in 1935.

20. *Leprosy.*—A new lepers Ordinance (Ordinance No. 25 of 1935) was enacted and passed on the 13th of June, 1935.

Prior to 1935 there was no place set apart in the Colony for use as a leper settlement. In May of 1935, however, temporary arrangements were made whereby lepers could be admitted to the Tung Wah Infectious Diseases Hospital at Kennedy Town. They are fed by the Tung Wah Hospital Committee at Government expense and treated by a Government Medical Officer. There were 129 admissions during 1936 (106 M. 23 F.) of whom 82 were transferred to Sheklung.

21. *Rabies.*—No human cases were reported during the year. One infected dog was reported from the New Territories.

22. *Dysentery.*—During November there occurred a serious epidemic of Shiga Dysentery.

The outbreak commenced on the 8th of November when twelve European children developed symptoms so severe that seven of them subsequently died.

From the 8th up to and including the 19th there were forty seven cases all but four of whom were European children under ten years of age. The causative organism was in twenty-five cases proved to be the bacterium dysenteriae of Shiga, in four that of Flexner and in the remainder the organism was not isolated and identified though in the majority of cases the severity of the symptoms pointed strongly to Shiga infection.

There were altogether eight deaths seven of which as mentioned above were cases which developed symptoms on the 8th. The remaining death was that of a Chinese infant the son of a Chinese servant engaged in a house where two children had died of the disease.

There being some indication that the infection was milk borne the public were advised to boil all milk and the various dairies were instructed to take special precautions. One of them the Dairy Farm decided to institute pasteurisation of all milk and cream before issuing thus obviating any risk there might be of infection spreading from that source.

It having been ascertained that all the twenty-four cases taken ill on the 8th and 9th had consumed a special brand of mild designated "Nursery Milk" issued by the Dairy Farm—special attention was directed to this institution. The fact that thousands of individuals had daily consumed milk from this

Digitized by Google

dairy without suffering any deleterious effects showed that the milk as a whole had not been at fault. It was assumed that one batch of nursery milk had accidently become infected with Shiga bacilli, a thorough inspection of the premises failed to bring to light any source of contamination.

The farm could fairly be described as a high class institution where special precautions were taken to produce a clean milk. It appeared to be the case that the milk was handled in a sanitary manner from the cow to the consumer and would be called Grade A in England.

A search was made to discover the source of infection and the stools of 113 workers were examined in an endeavour to find among them any Shiga carriers. No Shiga bacilli were isolated from any of the stools.

The Dumping of the Dead.

23. The number of bodies reported by the police as dumped was 1,091 as compared with 1,038 in 1935. In an endeavour to stop this practice chambers for the deposit of corpses have been established at all the Chinese Public Dispensaries. In some cases the top of the table is so arranged that the weight of a body on it closes an electric circuit which rings a bell in the caretaker's room.

Hospitals.

24. *The Government Civil Hospital.*—The Hospital consists of three blocks and contains 225 beds in 23 wards. About one half the accommodation has been placed under the care of the clinical professors of the University who have been gazetted respectively Surgeon, Physician and Obstetric Physician to the Hospital.

The number of in-patients in 1936 was 5,875 as compared with 5,047 in the previous year.

25. Attendances at the general clinics for out-patients numbered 55,532 as compared with 50,685 in the previous year. In addition there were 47,734 attendances at clinics for special subjects such as those in connection with children's diseases, opthalmology, ear, nose and throat work, venereal diseases, etc. Much of the work connected with outpatients was done by the University staff.

26. Attached to the hospital is a Maternity Hospital of 21 beds. There were 1,010 cases in 1936 and 1,056 in 1935. With the exception of 224 cases attended by the Government Medical Officers all the cases were under the care of the University Professor and his assistants.

Digitized by Google

27. *Mental Hospital.*—Situated close to the Government Civil Hospital is the Mental Hospital which is under the direction of the Medical Officer in charge of the Government Civil Hospital. There are separate divisions for European and Chinese. The European section contains 14 beds and the Chinese section 18 beds. This hospital is mainly only a temporary abode for mental cases, those of Chinese nationality being sent to Canton, and those of other nationalities repatriated to their respective countries. There were 419 cases in 1936 and 350 in 1935. The daily average number of patients for 1936 was 58.

28. *Government Infectious Diseases Hospital.*—This hospital situated on the Western outskirts of the City of Victoria is the only Government Institution of its kind for the whole Colony. Formerly a Police Station it contains only 26 beds. 13 cases were admitted in 1936 as compared with 1 case in 1935.

29. *Kowloon Hospital.*—The accommodation at this hospital, which is situated on the Mainland, is 131 beds. It consists of four two storied blocks, one of which is reserved for Maternity cases.

The opening of the Maternity Block in 1934 filled a long felt want as there was no provision on the mainland for European women. Private patients may be attended by their own doctor if they so desire. During the year 1,137 patients were treated.

The number of inpatients in 1936 was 3,367 as compared with 3,077 in 1935.

The new Out-Patients Department situated at the Main Gate was opened on 11th March, 1935.

The total attendances at the Out-Patient Department numbered 62,502 (54,194 in 1935); of these 25,796 were new cases; 13,591 were old cases. The remaining 23,115 were dressings.

30. *Victoria Hospital.*—Situated on the Peak, this hospital overlooks the city of Victoria and has a clear view across the harbour of the territory on the mainland.

There are 46 beds in the General Block and 26 in the Maternity Block.

During 1936, 644 cases were treated, 579 in the General Block and 65 in the Maternity Block; the number in 1935 being 490, made up of 424 General and 66 Maternity cases. Maternity patients may be attended by their own doctor if they so desire.

The total number of outpatients during the year 1936 was 1,064.

Digitized by Google

31. *Tsan Yuk Hospital.*—This Maternity Hospital was formerly part of the organisation financed and managed by the Chinese Public Dispensaries Committee and was handed over to Government as a free gift on 1st January, 1934.

The care of the patients is under the general supervision of the University Professor of Obstetrics who is also a Government Consultant. The University Medical students receive training there.

There are 60 beds, of which 46 are reserved for maternity cases and 14 for gynaecological cases.

During the year 1,636 cases were admitted to the Maternity section and 264 to the Gynaecological sections, a total of 1,900 admissions.

In the out-patients department, 4,172 people attended during the year. Separate Gynaecological, Infant Welfare and Anti-Natal Clinics were held in which 1,279, 2,494, and 399 cases respectively were treated or advised.

32. *The Chinese Hospitals.*—Tung Wah, Tung Wah Eastern, Kwong Wah—are hospitals which are maintained by the Tung Wah Charity Organisation, a purely Chinese body. These institutions, which are assisted by Government, are under inspection by the Government Medical Department. Each has as its Medical Superintendent a Chinese Medical Officer who is paid by Government. The Medical staff consists of Chinese Medical Officers, qualified in Western Medicine, and Chinese Herbalists.

The patient is given his choice of treatment.

HOSPITAL.	No. of beds.	No. treated in 1936.		No. treated in 1935.	
		Western Medicine	Chinese Herbalist Medicine	Western Medicine	Chinese Herbalist Medicine
Tung Wah—General..	446	9,251	5,723	7,088	4,984
Maternity.	24	2,034	—	1,833	—
Kwong Wah—General	267	9,155	4,436	7,296	3,364
Maternity.	59	4,173	—	4,439	—
Tung Wah Eastern—General.	222	5,110	2,715	4,778	2,185
Maternity.	14	1,120	—	1,154	—

Digitized by Google

33. *Tung Wah Infectious Diseases Hospital.*—Situated in Kennedy Town and adjacent to the Government Infectious Diseases Hospital is the Tung Wah Infectious Diseases Hospital, an institution containing 30 beds where 60 patients could be accommodated at a pinch. The treatment here was left almost entirely to the herbalists.

During the year, there were no cases of Smallpox treated.

Treatment of Opium Addicts.

34. At the Government Civil Hospital and Tung Wah Eastern Hospital six and twelve beds (respectively) are reserved for the treatment of opium addicts, the Government being responsible for the expenses incurred. 41 cases were treated at the former institution and 404 at the latter, making a total of 445 cases.

Chapter V.

Housing.

In recent years some evidence has been shown amongst the artizan class of the Colony of a quickening social consciousness and the resultant desire to avail themselves of improved housing accommodation wherever such is made available. The unskilled labouring classes, however, are still found densely packed in tenement houses deficient in light and air. This class of labour has to find its habitat as close as possible to the scene of its labour, with the result that the western part of the City of Victoria, which houses the native business quarter and closely adjoins the portion of the harbour handling the traffic from the West River and Chinese Coast Ports, is seriously overcrowded.

2. These conditions which were being slowly mitigated by the rebuilding of properties which from time to time were condemned for reasons of structural defects are now being more rapidly appeased by the operation of the Buildings Ordinance, 1935, which came into force on the 1st January, 1936. Overcrowding amongst the labouring class is still however prevalent.

3. The housing of the Colony is all privately owned, and control is maintained by the operation of the Buildings Ordinance, 1935, the provisions of which also mould the character of the housing. Generally the houses are built back to back in rows and are separated by a scavenging lane. These houses vary in height from two to four storeys according to the width of the street on to which they front, whilst the average height per storey is twelve feet, a minimum being controlled by the Ordinance of 1903. The Buildings Ordinance, 1935, permits a

Digitized by Google

minimum of eleven feet. The houses built prior to the 1903 Ordinance covering the greatest part of the native quarter are of depths varying from forty feet to eighty feet, with often less than 100 square feet of open space provided within the curtilage of the lot. After the passing of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, No. 1 of 1903, the amount of open space per house to be allowed within the boundaries of each lot is governed, and falls under two main heads, viz:—(*a*) houses built on land bought prior to the passing of the Ordinance in 1903, where the open space must not be less than one-fourth of the area of the site and (*b*) houses built on land bought subsequently where the minimum is raised to one-third of the area. On plan the usual frontage of each house is fifteen feet (a dimension owing its origin more to early structural limitation than to economics) and a depth of about thirty-five feet, whilst each storey consists of one large "room" with a native type kitchen in the rear. This room is then subdivided by thin partitions seven feet high into three cubicles, each of which may accommodate a family. A latrine is built at ground floor level, one to each house irrespective of the number of occupants, and is common to all.

4. Structurally the earlier houses are of blue bricks (of native manufacture having a very low structural value) and timber, (usually China fir which is extremely susceptible to the ravages of white ants). Lately, however, reinforced concrete and better quality bricks have been used.

5. In the City of Victoria the major defect of housing is due to lack of town planning, but since a large proportion of the City was erected in the early days of the Colony, when town planning was little practised even in Europe, the conditions to-day are a heritage, the elimination of which involves immense sums of money, and probably considerable opposition if attempted on a large scale.

6. Generally, many of the old houses suffer from defects which are attributable to the Ordinance of that time. Passed in 1903 the measure was framed to meet existing conditions, both structurally and hygienically as they were then understood and practised. But, viewed in the light of modern practice and knowledge, many of its provisions are found to be lax.

7. The Buildings Ordinance, No. 18 of 1935, came into operation on the 1st January, 1936. This ordinance provides for improvement in the conditions of light and ventilation of those old properties which under the previous Ordinances were not called upon to conform to modern requirements. A higher standard generally is being called for and building owners are themselves slowly realising the advantages to be gained from modern constructional methods allied to proper hygienic principles.

Digitized by Google

8. On May 10th, 1935, a Commission was appointed to enquire into the housing difficulties in Victoria and Kowloon, with special reference to overcrowding and its effect on tuberculosis, and to suggest steps which should be taken to remedy existing conditions.

9. The Commission has had difficulty in arranging meetings owing to the absence of members from the Colony and changes in Government personnel and the main work so far has been confined to the compiling of statistics obtained from preliminary housing surveys and an exchange of views with Shanghai.

Chapter VI.

Production.

Hong Kong is the port for South China, and the greater part of the large volume of goods that pass through it is in transit between South China and other parts of the world, including North and Middle China. The Colony itself produces comparatively little, though the shipbuilding, cement, rope, tin and sugar refining, rubber shoe and cotton knitting industries are not unimportant. Neither agriculture nor mining is carried on to any great extent, though the former is practised throughout the New Territories. Rice and vegetables are grown, and there is considerable poultry farming, but in insufficient quantities to supply the needs of the urban populations of Victoria and Kowloon. The cultivation is in the hands of the Chinese villagers. Sea fishing is an important industry, but here again local supplies have to be augmented by importation from outside.

2. Reports on the principal industries for the year 1936 are given below:—

Refined Sugar:—The promise of better trading conditions for Sugar at the beginning of 1936 was not fulfilled and after heavy purchases were made at the rising price levels of the first few weeks, a sharp drop in values caused considerable dislocation in market conditions and some loss to holders.

The downward movement of prices continued during the greater part of the year and the smuggling into North China through the connivance of the Autonomous Council in Hopei, and several rumours of substantial reduction in China's rates of Import Duty on Sugar as counter measures, contributed to the general dullness in trading. These rumours were not fulfilled and the unexpectedly rapid and peaceful success of the Central Government's resumption of control in Kwangtung and Kwangsi leading to improved confidence in Nanking's power,

Digitized by Google

better harvests in the Yangtze Valley giving rise to renewed optimism, an active demand for Sugar supplies arose in August, and this was maintained during the greater part of the rest of the year.

The devaluation of the Guilder in September might have had considerable effect on Eastern markets, but the Sugar Selling Organisation in Java, which is probably the most potent single factor in Sugar circles in the Far East, was able to exercise firm and beneficial control of the price situation, and the changed conditions caused little disruption.

At the end of 1936 a sharp upward trend in prices set in, with considerable activity in all the world markets. The strength of the upward movement has brought out many speculations but in general the recovery is probably genuine and healthy, and it is perhaps not too much to hope that at last Sugar may share in the improvement noted in other commodity markets.

Cement:—Due to the general depression, and the Government's retrenchment policy, fewer building schemes of importance have been undertaken during the year, so that the consumption of Cement shows a reduction on last year's figures.

Japanese Importers continue to do most of the trade, but large supplies of Haiphong Cement are now coming into the Colony and are being retailed at prices below those of Japanese.

Government Statistics for the year 1936 give the Imports of Cement into Hong Kong for that year as follows:—

From Japan	1,034,784	piculs	valued at	$ 742,526
,, Indo-China	342,505	,,	,,	245,598
,, Other Countries...	10,236	,,	,,	51,220
Total	1,387,425	,,	,,	$1,039,342

Preserved Ginger:—Local prices fluctuated during the year from $12.50 to $19 per picul for cargo ginger and from $19 to $26 for stem ginger. Better trade conditions in the United Kingdom and other buying markets led to increased demand for preserved ginger during 1936, the values of quantities exported being as follows:—

	1936.	*1935.*
To United Kingdom	$1,107,427	$ 783,193
,, Australia	346,913	332,671
,, Holland	202,578	191,454
,, U. S. A.	142,717	138,131
,, Other Countries	301,331	430,329
Total	$2,100,966	$1,875,778

Digitized by Google

Knitted Goods:—Better trading conditions were experienced by the local knitting factories in 1936. Although it is no longer possible to compete in the China market owing to heavy import duties, increased quantities of singlets were sold to Malaya and the Netherlands East Indies. These are manufactured from fine count yarns imported from Lancashire. Increased quantities of singlets were also exported to British Empire markets under Imperial Preference, Colonies in West Africa taking considerably more than in the previous year. These singlets at present, are manufactured from North China and Japanese yarn but the possibility of using yarn manufactured in the British Empire is now under consideration. Increased quantities of hosiery were also shipped in 1936 to India, Malaya, British West Indies, Egypt and South America.

The total value of exports of singlets in 1936 was $3,186,277 and that of hosiery $729,543.

Flashlight Torches & Batteries:—Although exports of flashlight torches to the United Kingdom were less in 1936 than in previous years owing to the Customs ruling that to qualify for Preference nothing but Empire made brass must be used in local factories, quantities sold to other markets were considerably in excess of the previous year's totals. The principal markets and the quantities taken were as follows:—India ($595,089), Burma ($220,918), Netherlands East Indies ($428,282), Malaya ($323,302), Siam ($173,224), Australia ($169,282), West Africa ($153,091), South Africa ($103,613), British West Indies ($42,362), Other Countries ($721,361), Total ($2,930,424).

Exports of batteries were also well maintained, the principal purchasing countries and values of quantities taken being as follows:—Netherlands East Indies ($327,453), Malaya ($180,888), India ($169,272), Ceylon ($154,332), Siam ($46,394), Other Countries ($400,040), Total ($1,279,379).

Rubber Shoes:—The discussions with the United Kingdom Customs authorities regarding the conditions to be complied with in respect of rubber and canvas shoes imported under Imperial Preference into the United Kingdom having been satisfactorily concluded, shipments of these shoes to the United Kingdom increased during 1936, the total value being $2,357,451. The British West Indies also purchased increased quantities totalling $1,071,932, the total value of exports to all countries being $4,126,413.

Lard:—The total quantity of lard exported during 1936 amounted to 70,688 piculs valued at $2,322,458 of which 62,424 piculs valued at $2,071,762 was taken by the United Kingdom. The year closed with unfavourable prospects for business in 1937 as the United Kingdom Customs have ruled that in order to obtain remission of duty as Empire produce on importation into the United Kingdom, lard refined in the Hong Kong must be produced from pigs bred in the Empire. Most of the lard manufactured in Hong Kong is from the fat of pigs which are imported into Hong Kong from China and Formosa.

Digitized by Google

Shipbuilding:—During the year the Colony's shipyards had under construction three passenger ships, two cargo ships, one police patrol cruiser, one Admiralty tug, one hopper dredger, one cruising yacht, one dumb barge and seven launches, a total of seventeen vessels of 3,900 tons gross.

Chapter VII.

Commerce.

The collection and compilation of Trade statistics was resumed in 1930 and for the first time since comparative figures have been available the visible trade of the Colony in 1936 showed signs of improvement, particularly in the final quarter of the year when substantial increases were recorded both of imports and exports, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year.

2. The combined values of imports and exports of merchandise in 1936 increased by 26.3% as compared with 1935, and 8.4% as compared with 1934, in terms of local currency. (Details are given in Table I).

3. Imports of merchandise totalled $452.4 (£28.5) millions in 1936 as compared with $365.0 (£35.3) millions in 1935, and $415.9 (£31.7) millions in 1934; whilst exports totalled $350.9 (£22.1) millions in 1936, as compared with $271.0 (£26.1) millions in 1935, and $325.1 (£24.8) millions in 1934.

4. In terms of local currency imports of merchandise in 1936 increased by 23.9% as compared with 1935, and 8.8% as compared with 1934; whilst exports increased by 29.5% in 1936 as compared with 1935, and 7.9% as compared with 1934.

5. In terms of sterling values imports of merchandise decreased by 19.3% in 1936 as compared with 1935, and 10.1% as compared with 1934; whilst exports decreased by 15.3% in 1936 as compared with 1935, and 10.9% as compared with 1934. (It should be noted that the average T.T. rate of exchange on London 1*s*. 3.3/16*d*. in 1936, 1*s*. 11.5/16*d*. in 1935, and 1*s*. 6.3/16*d*. in 1934).

6. It is estimated that the quantum of the import trade increased by 7.8% in 1936 as compared with 1935, and 12.6% as compared with 1934, but, of necessary, the volume of the import trade cannot be calculated accurately on account of the lack of a suitable unit of quantity and the fact that many commodities imported are declared by value only.

Digitized by Google

7. The following countries increased their shares of the import trade in 1936 as compared with 1935:—Japan, Netherlands East Indies, Siam, Germany, India and Belgium; whilst increased shares of the export trade were credited to British Malaya, Japan, Siam, U.S.A., Netherlands East Indies, Philippine Islands and India. (Details are given in Table II).

8. It will be seen from Table III that there were increased imports in 1936 of the following groups of commodities as compared with 1935:—Live animals, chemicals and drugs, Chinese medicines, dyeing and tanning materials, foodstuffs and provisions, fuels, hardware, liquors, machinery, manures, metals, minerals and ores, nuts and seeds, oils and fats, paints, paper and paperware, piece goods and textiles, tobacco, vehicles, wearing apparel and sundries, the only groups showing a decrease being building materials and railway materials. There were increases in all groups of exports with the exception of live animals and fuels.

9. Total movements of Treasure amounted to $216.5 millions in 1936 as compared with $254.7 millions in 1935. Imports totalled $72.7 millions in 1936 as compared with $38.8 millions in 1935, and exports $143.8 millions as compared with $216.0 millions. (Details are given in Table IV).

10. Average T.T. opening rates of exchange during the year 1936 were:—London 1/3.3/16; France 522.15/16; U.S.A. 31.7/16; Shanghai 105; India 83.5/8; Singapore 53.7/8; Japan 108.1/8; Java 48.3/4.

11. Wholesale prices in the Colony showed an increase of 32.3% in 1936 as compared with 1935 and an increase of 12.7% as compared with 1934. Increases were recorded in each of the four groups of commodities, viz., Foodstuffs, Textiles, Metals and Minerals, and Miscellaneous Articles.

Digitized by Google

Table I.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS 1924-1936.

(in £'s & $'s millions).

IMPORTS.

	1924.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
1st Quarter ...	£ 19.3	9.0	11.9	8.5	7.1	9.0	6.3
	$165.4	186.9	170.7	132.8	95.8	97.3	98.2
2nd Quarter ...	£ 17.1	8.7	10.2	8.5	7.1	10.7	7.4
	$144.0	180.1	164.7	126.1	99.7	94.0	114.1
3rd Quarter ...	£ 19.2	9.0	9.3	8.5	8.1	8.1	6.6
	$161.7	182.3	142.4	122.1	106.6	79.5	106.7
4th Quarter ...	£ 16.5	11.8	9.6	8.4	9.4	7.5	8.2
	$136.6	188.4	146.2	119.9	113.8	94.2	133.4
Total	£ 72.1	38.5	41.0	33.9	31.7	35.3	28.5
	$607.7	737.7	624.0	500.9	415.9	365.0	452.4

EXPORTS.

	1924.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
1st Quarter ...	£ 18.3	6.8	8.8	6.8	5.8	6.9	4.9
	$156.8	140.1	127.0	105.3	77.5	74.8	76.0
2nd Quarter ...	£ 15.2	6.4	7.1	7.2	5.7	7.7	5.6
	$128.0	132.5	115.3	106.2	79.6	67.9	87.5
3rd Quarter ...	£ 14.6	6.5	7.2	6.6	6.1	5.8	5.1
	$122.9	130.6	110.0	95.5	80.5	56.6	81.5
4th Quarter ...	£ 15.5	9.2	7.9	6.8	7.2	5.7	6.5
	$128.3	138.7	119.6	96.1	87.5	71.7	105.9
Total	£ 63.6	28.9	31.0	27.4	24.8	26.1	22.1
	$536.0	541.9	471.9	403.1	325.1	271.0	350.9

NOTE:—Average rate of exchange 1924 = 2*s*. $4\frac{1}{2}d$.
1931 = 1*s*. $0\frac{3}{4}d$.
1932 = 1*s*. $3\frac{3}{4}d$.
1933 = 1*s*. $4\frac{1}{4}d$.
1934 = 1*s*. $6\frac{3}{16}d$.
1935 = 1*s*. $11\frac{5}{16}d$.
1936 = 1*s*. $3\frac{3}{16}d$.

Digitized by Google

Table II.

DISTRIBUTION OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE BY COUNTRIES ($'000's omitted).

A.—IMPORTS.

	1935.		1936.	
	$	%	$	%
China	123,314	33.8	152,041	33.6
Japan	43,132	11.8	58,039	12.8
N. E. Indies	22,576	6.2	38,334	8.5
United Kingdom	23,897	6.5	29,008	6.4
U. S. A.	26,462	7.3	32,181	7.1
French Indo-China	32,573	8.9	25,760	5.7
Siam	20,535	5.6	29,780	6.6
Germany	16,346	4.5	23,618	5.2
British Malaya	6,215	1.7	7,352	1.6
India	4,440	1.2	5,755	1.3
Australia	8,419	2.3	9,114	2.0
Belgium	4,788	1.3	6,599	1.5
All Other Countries	32,293	8.9	34,769	7.7
Summary.				
United Kingdom	23,897	6.5	29,008	6.4
British Dominions and Possessions	26,983	7.4	29,911	6.6
China	123,314	33.8	152,041	33.6
All Other Countries	190,796	52.3	241,390	53.4
Total British Empire	50,880	13.9	58,919	13.0
Total Foreign	314,110	86.1	393,431	87.0
Grand Total	364,990	100.0	452,350	100.0

Digitized by Google

Table II,—*Continued.*

B.—Exports.

	1935.		*1936.*	
	$	%	$	%
China	132,804	49.0	149,739	42.7
British Malaya	17,006	6.3	25,767	7.3
French Indo-China	14,459	5.3	17,370	5.0
Japan	11,497	4.2	17,955	5.1
Macao	13,294	4.9	13,001	3.7
Siam	10,441	3.9	14,506	4.1
U. S. A.	21,248	7.8	28,436	8.1
Kwong Chow Wan	9,333	3.4	10,586	3.0
N. E. Indies	6,193	2.3	9,722	2.8
Philippines	5,012	1.8	11,500	3.3
India	3,416	1.3	4,819	1.4
All Other Countries	26,330	9.8	47,464	13.5
Summary.				
United Kingdom	7,553	2.8	13,282	3.8
British Dominions and Possessions	30,107	11.1	48,295	13.7
China	132,804	49.0	149,739	42.7
All Other Countries	100,569	37.1	139,549	39.8
Total British Empire	37,660	13.9	61,577	17.5
Total Foreign	233,373	86.1	289,288	82.5
Grand Total	271,033	100.0	350,865	100.0

Digitized by Google

Table III.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BY MAIN GROUPS OF COMMODITIES ($'000's omitted).

	Imports.		*Exports.*	
	1935.	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Animals, Live	7,929	8,042	168	134
Building Materials	6,730	6,635	3,502	3,513
Chemicals & Drugs	4,521	5,408	2,894	3,441
Chinese Medicines	13,018	20,265	10,318	13,761
Dyeing Materials	4,261	4,736	3,553	3,636
Foodstuffs	108,025	123,411	82,187	91,912
Fuels	10,628	11,033	781	396
Hardware	2,651	3,937	2,041	3,072
Liquors	2,922	3,379	761	894
Machinery	6,740	9,060	7,392	9,947
Manures	3,435	8,886	4,882	10,221
Metals	32,784	41,032	28,711	36,973
Minerals & Ores	2,190	2,812	2,829	8,485
Nuts and Seeds	5,141	6,566	3,436	4,047
Oils and Fats	33,972	39,994	25,657	33,090
Paints	1,451	1,750	1,196	1,430
Paper and Paperware	8,871	13,417	5,644	7,894
Piece Goods	52,670	67,675	34,109	40,069
Railway Materials	563	84	1,061	1,155
Tobacco	5,863	5,891	3,236	4,321
Treasure	38,785	72,728	215,959	143,815
Vehicles	3,938	6,584	3,061	7,970
Wearing Apparel	3,611	4,123	6,223	12,591
Sundries	43,075	57,631	37,392	51,913
Total	403,774	525,079	486,993	494,680

Digitized by Google

Table IV.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF TREASURE.

	Imports.		*Exports.*	
	1935.	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	$	$	$	$
Bank Notes	12,520,780	22,545,864	12,619,645	24,756,807
Copper Cents	6,006	193,279	13,485	234
Gold Bars	3,548,539	3,656,465	28,330,556	33,217,868
Gold Coins	—	—	38,060	760,049
Gold Leaf	4,764	5,849	139,597	356,132
Silver Bars	1,053,014	45,288	100,856,835	25,876
H.K. Silver Dollars	8,285,219	277,420	34,558,816	49,176,000
Chinese Silver Dollars	6,727,206	45,241,301	17,088,114	2,975,093
Other Silver Dollars	1,358,911	22,446	19,038,593	15,345,501
Silver Sub. Coin	5,280,372	740,496	3,275,588	17,201,873
Total	38,784,811	72,728,408	215,959,289	143,815,433

Table V.

WHOLESALE PRICE CHANGES.

(1922 = 100)

Groups.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Foodstuffs	144.3	126.5	113.4	94.3	85.4	113.3
Textiles	135.8	125.2	97.0	85.9	74.2	99.4
Metals	140.9	128.1	107.8	97.4	79.8	107.2
Miscellaneous	125.4	109.7	95.7	88.5	72.3	92.5
Average	136.6	122.4	103.5	91.5	77.9	103.1

Digitized by Google

Chapter VIII.

Wages and the Cost of Living.

The depression in the smaller industries, which pay their employees on a piece-work basis or on a complicated system of a bonus on the yearly profits, appeared to have been improved owing to the beneficial effect of the falling exchange rate throughout the year. The improvement of conditions in the manufacturies of electric torches and dry batteries, confectionery, cork and felt hats, rubber shoes and rubber knee-boots reported in 1935 has been maintained.

Other industries which have increased included the paper dyeing industry, many concerns having transferred to Hong Kong from South China due to the local facilities for obtaining raw materials; and the silk cloth printing, hurricane lamp manufacturies and shoe making by machinery concerns.

Within the last few months there has been a marked increase in the shirt and pyjama making industry due to the large amount of artificial silk which is being imported into the Colony.

Signs of the renewal of activity in the knitting and weaving factories are apparent. The employment of female labour in these industries as well as in the torch, battery and rubber shoe factories has increased.

There is still a good deal of unemployment amongst the unskilled male workers, but the heavy industries, where skilled labour is demanded, have had a fairly good year.

Most of the factories are working full time. The working conditions are still improving and the majority of factories are now operating in fire-resisting buildings, having removed from their old tenements. There has been no trouble over wage disputes and dismissals.

The number of factories has increased. Sixty-four have closed down, but ninety-nine fresh factories were registered. The total number of registered workshops and factories in operation is now 541.

The cost of living as reflected in the commodities rice, fish, meat, vegetables, oil, tea, firewood, clothes and shoes appears to have remained much the same for the beginning of the year as in 1935, but an upward trend is noticeable towards the end of the year. On two labour-food index figures taken for 1928-1933, the approximate percentage for 1936 rises from 75.3 in both cases in January 1936 to 80.9 and 91.8 respectively for December 1936.

Digitized by Google

Average Rates of Wages for Labour.

Building Trade:—

Locomotive Drivers	$1.50	to	$2.00	per day.
Carpenters	0.80	,,	1.15	,, ,,
Bricklayers	0.80	,,	1.15	,, ,,
Painters	0.90	,,	1.15	,, ,,
Plasterers (including Shanghai Plasterers)	0.90	,,	1.60	,, ,,
Scaffolders	0.90	,,	1.20	,, ,,
Labourers (male)	0.45	,,	0.50	,, ,,
,, (female)	0.30	,,	0.40	,, ,,

Working hours 9 per day. Time and a half paid for overtime. Free temporary sleeping quarters provided on the building site and communal messing at cheap rates.

Shipbuilding & Engineering:—

Electricians	$1.00	to	$1.40	per day.
Coppersmiths	1.00	,,	1.60	,, ,,
Fitters	0.80	,,	1.55	,, ,,
Sawmillers	0.70	,,	1.25	,, ,,
Boilermakers	0.95	,,	1.20	,, ,,
Sailmakers	1.00	,,	1.40	,, ,,
Blacksmiths	0.75	,,	1.20	,, ,,
Turners	1.00	,,	1.40	,, ,,
Patternmakers	1,00	,,	1.40	,, ,,
Labourers	0.70	,,	1.00	,, ,,

Overtime—time and a half. Night work—double time.

Transport Workers:—

Tram Drivers	$36.00	to	$45.00	per month.
,, Conductors	30.00	,,	39.00	,, ,,
Bus Drivers (Chinese Bus Co.)	30.00	,,	50.00	,, ,,
,, Conductors (Chinese Bus Co.)	18.00	,,	20.00	,, ,,
,, Drivers (European Bus Co.).	55.00			,, ,,
,, Conductors (European Bus Co.).	22.50	,,	35.00	,, ,,

Working hours 9 per day. Free Uniform. Bonus at end of year 3 day's pay. (Chinese Bus Co.).

9 hours a day. Free Uniform. One month's salary bonus. (European Bus Co.).

Digitized by Google

Railway Workers (Government).—

Station Masters	$1,100	to	$1,800	per annum.
Telephone Operators	750 ,,		1,400 ,,	,,
Booking Clerks	600 ,,		1,000 ,,	,,
Guards	600 ,,		1,000 ,,	,,
Signalmen	—		1,000 ,,	,,
Engine Drivers	540 ,,		1,000 ,,	,,
Ticket Collectors	420 ,,		600 ,,	,,
Firemen	330 ,,		480 ,,	,,
Pointsmen	192 ,,		240 ,,	,,

Female Workers in Factories:—

Cigarette making	$0.30	to	$0.75	per day.
Knitting factories	0.20 ,,		0.45 ,,	,,
Perfumery	0.20 ,,		0.40 ,,	,,
Confectionery	0.15 ,,		0.25 ,,	,,
Electric hand torch factories	0.20 ,,		0.30 ,,	,,
Electric hand torch battery factories	0.15 ,,		0.35 ,,	,,

Working hours from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. One hour off at midday. Overtime from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at day rates.

Domestic Servants:—

Employed by Chinese	$ 7.00	to	$20.00	per month.
Employed by Europeans	15.00 ,,		40.00 ,,	,,
Gardeners	15.00 ,,		30.00 ,,	,,

With free lodging, and, with Chinese employers, generally free board.

NOTE:—The rates of pay of Government employees are much the same as those of a similar category in private employ.

Transport coolies	$0.60	to	$0.70	per day.
Coal coolies	0.80			,, ,,
Ricksha coolies	0.60 ,,		0.70 ,,	,,

Digitized by Google

Chapter IX.

Education and Welfare Institutions.

Government Schools.

These are either schools where the medium of instruction is English or mostly English or schools where the medium of instruction is Chinese. The former, seventeen in number, are known as "English" schools, the latter of which there are three as "vernacular" schools.

2. Of the four English schools, classed as "secondary" schools in the Table below, two are Anglo-Chinese schools for boys and one for girls. These three schools have primary departments. The fourth school, the Central British School which is a mixed school, has no primary department. Of the eleven English schools, classed as "primary" schools in the Table, three are mixed schools preparing for the Central British School. In this group are also four "District" schools, including one for Indian boys and four "Lower Grade" schools, three of which are in rural districts. In those English schools which are attended by Chinese the study of English and of Chinese is carried on side by side, the *pari passu* system requiring that promotion shall depend on proficiency in both languages.

3. Of the two Government Schools classed as "vocational" one is the Junior Technical School which was opened in February, 1933, the other is the Evening Institute which is attended by persons desirous of receiving instruction for the most part germane to their day time occupations.

4. Of the three Government vernacular schools one has a seven years' course and includes a Normal department. There is also a normal school for women teachers and a normal school on the mainland which aims at providing vernacular teachers for rural schools.

Grant-in-Aid and Subsidized Schools.

5. There are fifteen Grant-in-Aid English Schools, and four Grant-in-Aid Vernacular Schools. Of the former, seven are schools for boys and eight are for girls.

6. One English school for girls has a primary department only, and one an infant department only. The remaining schools classed in the table below as "secondary" schools have primary departments as well as the upper classes.

7. Munsang College, Kowloon City, received a grant of $6,000.

Digitized by Google

8. The vernacular Grant-in-Aid Schools are schools for girls and are classed in the Table as "secondary" schools.

9. The 294 subsidized schools are all vernacular schools.

Unaided Schools.

10. In 1936 there were 661 unaided vernacular schools with 40,323 children and 128 unaided English schools with 5,963 children.

Table showing number of schools and scholars for the year 1936.

CLASS OF INSTITUTIONS.	Government Schools.		Grant-in-Aid and Subsidized Schools.		Unaided Schools.	
	No. of Institutions.	On Roll.	No. of Institutions.	On Roll.	No. of Institutions.	On Roll.
English :—						
Secondary, ...	4	2,238	14	6,785	6	893
Primary, ...	11	1,843	2	243	115	4,695
Vocational, ...	2	907	—	—	7	375
Total, ...	17	4,988	16	7,028	128	5,963
Vernacular :—						
Secondary, ...	1	247	4	964	—	—
Primary, ...	—	—	294	19,955	660	40,022
Vocational, ...	2	211	—	—	1	301
Total, ...	3	458	298	20,919	661	40,323

Total No. of Institutions 1,123

Total on Roll 79,679

N.B.—Kindergarten boys attending Grant-in-Aid Schools for girls are not shown separately.

The University.

11. The University of Hong Kong was incorporated under a local University Ordinance, 1911, and opened in 1912. It is a residential University and open to students of both sexes.

Digitized by Google

12. The University hostels are three in number—Lugard Hall, Eliot Hall and May Hall. There are also three recognized hostels for men, St. John's Hall, Morrison Hall and Ricci Hall, and one—St. Stephen's Hall for women. No university hostel at present exists for women students.

13. The late Sir Hormusjee Mody bore the entire expense of the erection of the main building. Additions have been made through the liberality of benefactors of varied nationality and domicile. The latest additions to the buildings are a School of Chinese Studies, the cost of which was borne by Mr. Tang Chi Ngong a local Chinese merchant and banker, and a Chinese Library named after the late Mr. Fung Ping Shan who provided a sum of $100,000 for the building and $50,000 as an endowment fund for its maintenance; also a School of Surgery and a new Engineering Laboratory named after H.E. the Governor, Sir William Peel. During 1936 a first class gymnasium was added to the University buildings. The entire cost of this building and its equipment was the generous gift of Mr. Eu Tong Sen, one of the leading Chinese in the Colony.

14. The income of the University for 1936 amounted to $891,714 of which $369,260 was derived from endowments and $350,000 from Government. Messrs. John Swire & Sons, Ltd., gave £40,000 to the original endowment fund and subsequently $100,000 for engineering equipment. The Rockfeller Institute has endowed the University with three chairs in surgery, medicine and obstetrics, the endowment being in each case $250,000. The annual expenditure in 1936 amounted to about $849,663.

15. The University includes the three faculties of Medicine, Engineering and Arts. Admission to all faculties is conditional upon passing the matriculation examination of the University or some examination recognized as equivalent thereto.

16. The Faculty of Medicine provides a six year course of study in the usual pre-medical and medical sciences, leading to the degree of M.B. and B.S. The degrees of M.D. and M.S. are awarded on examinations but are subject to the proviso that every candidate for the degrees shall produce evidence of special post-graduate experience in the subject which he presents. The degrees above mentioned are recognized by the General Medical Council for registration in Great Britain.

17. The Faculty of Engineering provides a four years course in practical and theoretical engineering, leading to the degree of B.Sc., (Eng.) Fourth year students specialize in civil, mechanical or electrical engineering. The degree for post-graduate work is that of M.Sc., (Eng.).

18. The Faculty of Arts includes departments of pure arts and science, social science, commerce, a department of Chinese studies and a department for training teachers. The course is in all cases one of four years and leads to the degree of B.A The degree for post-graduate work is that of M.A.

Digitized by Google

19. With a view to securing the maintenance of the desired standard—which is in all three faculties that of a British University degree—external examiners are, in all faculties associated with the internal examiners in all annual final examinations. In the Faculty of Engineering, but not in other faculties, degrees with honours are granted, the standard being assessed by special examiners chosen from amongst the external examiners in the University of London.

20. The degree of LL.D. is granted *honoris causa.*

Charitable Institutions.

21. The following are the best known Charitable Institutions.

French Convent Orphanage.
Italian Convent Orphanage.
Maryknoll Convent, Kowloon.
St. Louis Industrial School.
Po Leung Kuk—Chinese.
Victoria Home and Orphanage.
Society of Precious Blood Hospital.
Industrial Home for the Blind, Pokfulam.
Home for Aged Poor, Kowloon.
La Calvaire Home for Aged Poor, Happy Valley.
Eyre Refuge.
Salvation Army Home.
Industrial School, Aberdeen.

Recreation and Art.

22. Most of the schools contrive to hold annual sports either on their own grounds or on grounds generously lent by local cricket and football clubs. Lawn tennis, football, swimming, volley ball and basket ball continue to increase in popularity. Cricket is played at a few schools. Physical training is given by qualified instructors. Art is taught in the Government British schools by trained art mistresses.

Chapter X.

Communication and Transport.

The external communications of Hong Kong are excellent both by sea and by telegraph, cable and radio. As regards the former, the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co., the

Digitized by Google

Nippon Yusen Kaisha, the Blue Funnel Line, the Messageries Maritimes, and several other British and foreign companies maintain regular passenger and freight services between Hong Kong and Europe. The trans-Pacific communications are well served by the Canadian Pacific Steamship Ltd., the Dollar Line, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and other steamship lines. To Australia three steamship companies, the Eastern and Australian, Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and Australian and Oriental maintain regular passenger and freight services. In addition there are direct sailings to Africa, South America, and to New York. There is frequent and regular communication between Hong Kong and other Far Eastern ports in India, Java, Straits Settlements, Formosa, Indo-China, Japan and the China coast. Local steamship communication is by river steamer from Hong Kong to Canton and the West River ports with several sailings daily. In addition there is a vast traffic between Hong Kong and the adjacent provinces of China by junk and sampan.

2. The total shipping entering and clearing Ports in the Colony during the year 1936 amounted to 83,571 vessels of 41,731,016 tons which, compared with the figures for 1935 shows a decrease of 11,084 vessels and 1,742,963 tons. Of the above, 40,626 vessels of 40,063,663 tons were engaged in Foreign Trade as compared with 45,553 vessels of 41,487,477 tons in 1935. There was a decrease in British Ocean-going shipping of 476 vessels and 567,247 tons. Foreign Ocean-Going vessels show a decrease of 438 vessels and 169,658 tons. British River Steamers show a decrease of 1,157 vessels and 772,460 tons. Foreign River Steamers show an increase of 508 vessels and 268,521 tons. In Steamships not exceeding 60 tons employed in Foreign Trade there was a decrease of 614 vessels with a decrease in tonnage of 16,393 tons. Junks in Foreign Trade show a decrease of 2,750 vessels with a decrease in tonnage of 166,577 tons. In Local Trade (*i.e.*, between places within the waters of the Colony), there was a decrease in Steam launches of 1,859 vessels with a decrease in tonnage of 92.759 tons. Junks in Local Trade show a decrease of 4,298 vessels, with a decrease in tonnage of 225,390 tons.

3. The Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company (British) by means of three cables to Singapore, one direct and one each *via* Labuan and Cape St. James respectively, provides good connections with Europe *via* India, with Australasia, and with the other British Colonies and Possessions. By their cable to Manila connection is made with the direct American cable, thence to San Francisco. Two cables to Shanghai, belonging respectively to the Eastern Extension and to the Great Northern (Danish) Companies, *via* Foochow and Amoy respectively, give a good connection with Shanghai, North China, Japan and Russia; the system of the Great Northern Telegraph Company gives a good service to Europe *via* Asiatic Russia.

Digitized by Google

4. The Government operates commercial radio services with direct communication to the Chinese stations Shanghai, Foochow, Amoy, Swatow, Canton, Yunnanfu, Hoihow, to Formosa, French Indo-China, Siam, Philippines, Dutch East Indies, British North Borneo, *via* Manila to Europe, America, etc. and *via* Malabar to Australasia, Europe etc.

5. The revenue collected by the Radio Office during the year from radio telegrams amounted to $676,546, an increase of $75,710 on the amount collected in 1935. Advices of vessels signalled at the Lighthouses yielded $1,517. The total Revenue from the telegraph service amounted to $678,063. Ship Station Licences yielded $1,638, Amateur Transmission Station Licences $300, Broadcast Receiving Licences $66,756, Dealers' Licences $2,675 and Examination Fee for Operators' Certificates of Proficiency $975, Limited Licences $450.

6. The number of paid radio-telegrams forwarded during the year was 167,883 consisting of 1,630,029 words against 202,196 consisting of 1,829,519 words in 1935 and 194,973 were received, consisting of 2,112,835 words against 204,155 consisting of 2,225,364 words.

7. In addition to the paid traffic figures given above the wireless Service is responsible for the reception of time signals daily from Bordeaux, Rugby, Malabar and Nauen, for the transmission of time signals to ships in the China Sea, the reception of press messages amounting to 588 messages or 382,839 words from Rugby, the collection and distribution of meteorological traffic, 5,522 messages 421,409 words having been forwarded, and 11,995 messages 561,255 words having been received, the reception and dissemination of distress, piracy and navigation messages, the transmission and reception of Government messages, etc.

8. A telephone service between Hong Kong and Canton, a distance of 110 miles, is in operation.

9. *Mails.*—The number of mail receptacles of Hong Kong origin despatched during the year was 41,681 as compared with 45,318 in 1935—a decrease of 3,637, the number received was 48,672 as compared with 47,759—an increase of 913.

10. Receptacles in transit, including those to and from British and Foreign Men-of-War, numbered 146,126 as against 209,157 in 1935 a decrease of 63,031.

11. *Registered Articles and Parcels.*—The number of registered articles handled amounted to 660,866 as compared with 683,676 in 1935—a decrease of 22,810.

12. The figures for insured letters were 12,540 and 14,580 respectively—a decrease of 2,040.

Digitized by Google

13. Parcels, ordinary and insured, which were dealt with reached a total of 164,482 as against 149,929 in 1935—an increase of 14,553.

14. The Railway may be said to have had a satisfactory year in 1936. The estimates were framed in expectation of increased traffic revenue and lower operating expenditure. This optimism was justified by the results secured, which show that both traffic receipts and net earnings would have exceeded the amounted anticipated but for the unexpected closure of the Shum Chun Casino on September 1st.

15. Receipts and net operating revenue were $1,245,469.16 and $454,733.00 respectively, as against $1,411,674.73 and $500,654.48 the previous year.

16. Operating expenditure was $790,736.16, compared with $911,020.25 in 1935. This year's figure is the lowest obtained since 1929, and was made possible, despite the low sterling exchange figure of the dollar, by a particularly favourable price for coal and by economy in working. The operating ratio improved from 64.53% to 63.49%.

17. The account in respect of the three 4-6-0 locomotives, purchased by the Hong Kong Government on behalf of the Kwang Tung Provincial Government, was fully liquidated on April 30th, and these engines were handed over to the Chinese Section for operation on May 1st. Revenue was affected considerably by the change, foreign haulage receipts slumping from $289,641.32 to $132,482.78.

18. The track on both Sections was well maintained, and enabled the overall timing of the express trains to be reduced to 2 hours 55 minutes including an additional stop in Chinese territory.

19. The total steam train mileage run amounted to 334,674, compared with 500,887 the previous year; this includes trains hauled by British Section locomotives over the Chinese Section. Motor coach mileage was 5,621. Passenger journeys were 2,826,867, as against 2,799,352 in 1935, the advance being due to an increase of 180,487 in through carryings.

20. The most noteworthy improvement of the year was the conversion of one of the two motor coaches into a streamlined luxury parlour observation railcar named the "Taipo Belle". This car was operated as a separate unit during week-ends, and attached to the rear of ordinary local trains on other days. It has proved to be extremely popular with the public and, in consequence, the second motor coach is undergoing similar reconstruction.

Digitized by Google

21. There are 377 miles of roads in the Colony, 161 miles on the Island of Hong Kong and 216 miles in Kowloon and the New Territories. Of the total mileage 293 miles are constructed in water bound macadam dressed with asphalt, 12 miles in sheet asphalt on a cement concrete foundation, 13 miles of tar macadam, 17 miles of concrete, 3 miles of granite setts and wooden blocks on a cement concrete foundation and 39 miles of earth roads.

22. The public travelling over the Colony's roads increases yearly with a corresponding growth in the number of motor buses, of which there are 84 operating on the island of Hong Kong, and 101 on the mainland. These are gradually replacing the rickshas, the number of which decreases year by year.

23. The Hong Kong Tramway Company has a fleet of 91 double deck tram cars running along the sea front of Victoria from Kennedy Town to Shaukiwan.

24. Communication between the island and the mainland is maintained by a number of ferry services; the most important of which are the Star Ferry between Kowloon Point and a pier near the General Post Office, and the combined vehicular and passenger service of the Hong Kong and Yaumati Ferry Company between Jordan Road, Kowloon and Jubilee Street, Victoria.

Chapter XI.

Banking, Currency, Weights & Measures.

The Colony is well served by banking institutions. There are fourteen principal banks doing business in the Colony which are members of the Clearing House, and in addition several Chinese Banks and many native Hongs do some banking business. There are no banks which devote themselves specially to agricultural and co-operative banking. The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation also conducts the business of the Hong Kong Savings Bank on usual savings bank principles. The credit and repute of the Colony's financial institutions are high and it is satisfactory to know that ample encouragement and support are available to finance any possible demand.

2. The Currency of the Colony which had been hitherto based on silver and governed by the Order in Council of 2nd February, 1895, underwent some very important changes towards the end of 1935. Prior to that time it was, like that of China, on a silver basis. The unit of currency is the Hong Kong dollar, divided into 100 cents. The standard coin was the silver British dollar and the exchange value of the Hong Kong dollar, subject to rather wide variations, from time to time, the reasons for which are discussed in the Report of the Hong Kong Currency

Digitized by Google

Commissioners, 1931, fluctuated with the price of silver. On the 15th October, 1934, the Chinese Government departed from the strict silver standard by imposing a variable export duty on silver, but Hong Kong remained on the silver standard until November, 1935, when the Chinese Government definitely abandoned the silver standard, nationalising all silver and prohibiting export. Following that, the Hong Kong Government, on the 9th November, 1935, prohibited the export of silver, and on the 5th December, 1935, a Currency Ordinance was passed calling in silver coin from circulation, and setting up the machinery which now controls the exchange value of the Hong Kong dollar. Briefly, this consists of an Exchange Fund, with power to buy and sell foreign exchange, which has taken over the silver formerly held against their issues by the note-issuing banks, in return for certificates of indebtedness against which the Fund may hold bullion, foreign exchange or approved securities.

The legal tender currency of the Colony is now as follows:—

(*a*) Bank notes, the excess of which over the fiduciary issue of each bank is now backed by certificates, not by silver as formerly:—

At 31.12.36.

(*i*) Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China ...$ 22,756,888

(*ii*) Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation ...$124,863,771

(*iii*) Mercantile Bank of India ... ...$ 4,091,508

(*b*) Government $1 notes, of which $2,300,000 have been issued.

(*c*) 10 cent and 5 cent cupro-nickel coins.

(*d*) 1 cent copper coins.

(*e*) The silver dollars and .800 fine silver sub-coin (10 cent and 5 cent pieces, and a few 50 and 20 cent pieces) which have either remained in circulation in the Colony or filter back into it from the mainland of China, are still legal tender in the Colony (sub-coin only up to an amount of $2.00).

The exchange value of the Hong Kong dollar, which had gradually risen during 1934 in confirmity with the rise in the price of silver, reached a maximum of between 2*s.*/6*d.* and 2*s.*/7*d.* in April/May 1935, and thereafter continued to follow silver until the prohibition of export in November, 1935. From then until the Currency Ordinance was passed in December, the rate moved between 1*s.*/4*d.* and 1*s.*/6*d.* Since the Exchange Fund began operating in December, 1935, the rate has remained fairly steady; the highest during 1936 being 1/3$\frac{5}{8}$ on 4th April and the lowest 1/2$\frac{3}{4}$ on 9th September. During the last 3 months of the year exchange was very steady at 1/2$\frac{13}{16}$ to 1/2$\frac{7}{8}$.

Digitized by Google

3. The weights and measures in use in the Colony are defined in the Schedule to Ordinance No. 2 of 1885. They consist of the standards in use in the United Kingdom and of the following Chinese Weights and Measures:—

1 fan (candareen) = 0.0133 ounces avoirdupois.

1 tsin (mace) = .133 ounces avoirdupois.

1 leung (tael) = 1.33 ounces avoirdupois.

1 kan (catty) = 1.33 pounds avoirdupois.

1 tam (picul) = 133.33 pounds avoirdupois.

and

1 chek (foot) = $14\frac{5}{8}$ English inches divided into 10 tsün (inches) and each tsün into ten fan or tenths.

Chapter XII.

Public Works.

During the year under review the operations of the Public Works Department were carried out, under a Head Office Staff, by eleven sub-departments, namely the Accounts and Stores, Architectural, Buildings Ordinance, Crown Lands and Surveys, Drainage, Electrical, Port Development, Roads and Transport, Valuations and Resumptions, Waterworks Construction and Waterworks Maintenance offices.

2. The European staff comprised 150 officers and the non-European approximately 641.

3. The following is a summary of works carried out during the year:—

Buildings.

4. Works completed were:—Gaol at Stanley and its Staff Quarters; Trade School; Magistracy at Kowloon; Market at Tsun Wan; Latrine at Lockhart Road; Kiosk for the Hong Kong Travel Association; Improvements at the Peak School and additional cells at Taipo Police Station.

5. Works under construction were:—Queen Mary Hospital and its Staff Quarters; Wanchai Market; Police Station at Ta Ku Ling and Barricades to Police Stations in the New Territories.

6. In addition to general maintenance numerous minor alterations, improvements and additions were executed to Government Buildings during the year.

Digitized by Google

Communications.

7. Works completed were:—King's Road from North Point House to Causeway Bay; formation of road adjoining Inland Lots Nos. 3685 and 3686 Blue Pool Road, Wong Nei Chong; widening of the entrance to Tytam Road; access road to new cemeteries area, north and east of Hammer Hill; road between $3\frac{3}{4}$ and $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles on the Fanling—Shataukok Road and between Nam Sha Po and Gill's cutting on the Taipo Market—Fanling Road was strengthened and improved; streets in Taipo Market and Un Long were surfaced, kerbed and channelled in front of new houses; access road to new Central British School and Branch Road from access road to Shek Lai Pui Filters.

8. Works under construction were:—widening of road from Kennedy Road to the Military Hospital, Bowen Road; improvements to Sha Tin Pass Road; widening of road from Au Tau to Kam Tin; new 20 feet road from Kam Tin to Shek Kong; Smuggler's Pass Road; Sai Kung Road round new Flight Gap, Kai Tak and roads on Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2657.

Drainage.

9. New main sewers and storm water drains to a length of 2,655 feet, open rubble-walled nullahs to a length of 485 feet, a portion of which was covered for a length of 102 feet were constructed in Hong Kong. A further length of single nullah wall with concrete invert was built for a length of 93 feet. Open channels of varying sections were laid for a length of 547 feet. In Kowloon, New Kowloon and New Territories, new main sewers and storm water drains to a length of 570 feet were constructed. A length of 2,000 feet of 3″ thick cement concrete was laid as inverting for an open cut.

10. Anti-Malarial work in Hong Kong was continued throughout the year at Mount Parker. The work was chiefly confined to "making good" and improvements to prevent storm damage arising in the main valley. The work extended over a length of approximately 1,800 feet. The contract which had been in force since May 1932 was closed in December. At Kowloon Tong, the work was terminated early in the year and the contract closed. No work was undertaken during the latter part of the year.

Water Works.

11. On the maintenance side the following works were carried out:—

12. In Hong Kong the following lengths of new mains were laid to improve distribution:—3,166 feet of 4″, 2,133 feet of 3″ and 4,551 feet of 2″. 1,103 feet of subsidiary mains were laid in back lanes.

Digitized by Google

13. The Middle Gap and Mt. Cameron Sections of the Eastern Pumping Scheme were completed and put into use in April. A distribution system from Middle Gap Service Reservoir was provided by laying 2,658 feet of 3″ and 2,654 feet of 2″ piping.

14. The new scheme commenced in 1935 to supply filtered water to the Stanley District was completed, except for a few minor fittings in the Pressure Filters erected at Tytam Tuk Pumping Station. The two concrete service reservoirs, one at Stanley Mound and the other near the New Gaol, were completed, tested and put into use in July with unfiltered water.

15. The following lengths of piping were laid:—397 feet of 6″, 8,056 feet of 5″, 592 feet of 4″ and 1,767 feet of 3″.

16. A scheme to supply filtered water to the Queen Mary Hospital was completed during the year. A pipe line 8,551 feet long was laid from the existing 750-foot level service reservoir near Po Shan Road to a new service reservoir above the Hospital site. This reservoir has a capacity of 102,000 gallons and a top water level of 675 feet A.O.D. 762 feet of 4″ and 1,050 feet of 3″ piping were laid for the distribution system and fire service from the service reservoir to the Hospital and Quarters.

17. In Kowloon and New Kowloon the following lengths of mains were laid 2,550 feet of 12″, 335 feet of 10″, 544 feet of 6″, 982 feet of 4″, 832 feet of 3″, 340 feet of 2″ and 70 feet of 1½″. In addition 3,858 feet of subsidiary mains were laid in back lanes.

18. In the New Territories mains were aid as follows:— 515 feet of 4″ and 390 feet of subsidiary main at Taipo, 140 feet of 3″ main at Un Long and 413 feet of 2″ main at Tsun Wan.

19. The pathway over the spillway of the Kowloon Reservoir was demolished and replaced by a reinforced concrete decking.

20. On the construction side the following works were carried out:—

21. Two roller sluice gates, to byepass the discharge of Tytam Tuk Catchwaters when Tytam Tuk Reservoir is full, were erected and a byepass channel to divert the above discharge was constructed.

22. A commencement was made with the laying of the second 24″ diameter trunk main for the Shing Mun Valley Scheme. The pipes, which were made locally from British steel, were all delivered during the year and comprised 12,837 lineal feet of heavy section and 3,449 lineal feet of light section. The laying of 12,050 lineal feet of the heavy section was practically completed during the year.

Digitized by Google

23. The third section of the filters for the Shing Mun Valley Scheme was commenced. This comprises a rapid gravity plant of a daily capacity of five million gallons supplied by the Paterson Engineering Company, Limited. Delivery of the plant was made in Hong Kong during the year. A contract for the construction was let in April and by the end of the year half the work was completed.

Reclamations.

24. At North Point, a length of sea wall extending 890 feet eastwards from M. L. 431 was constructed to high water level. The sea wall at Kun Tong was extended 260 feet making a total of 1,150 feet. The dumping of refuse was carried out by the Urban Council within the area protected by the above sea wall; at the end of the year about one acre had been reclaimed by the dumped refuse.

Electrical Works.

25. Wireless:—A new short wave wireless transmitter, a line amplifier for broadcasting, an emergency marine transmitter and two new dipole aerials were installed at Cape D'Aguilar. A loud speaker unit and various new aerials were erected at Victoria Peak. Kai Tak Airport W/T Service was equipped for aeronautical services on medium and short waves. A new W/T installation was fitted to No. 1 Police Launch and a new charging apparatus was supplied to Gap Rock Lighthouse.

26. Two ribbon type microphones and an amplifier were installed in the Broadcasting Studio and control room. Three Marconi recorder bridges were installed and various improvements carried out at the Radio Telegraph Office.

27. Under the hospital services a new amplifier was supplied to Kowloon Hospital, loud speakers and diffusion points were installed in the Tung Wah Small Pox Hospital, the Government Civil and Victoria Hospitals.

28. At the Government W/T School one full course and five refresher courses were completed. Current certificates were called in and exchanged for the new type issued under the 1936 Ordinance.

29. Light, power and telephone:—Lights, fans, lifts, telephones and bells in Government Buildings were maintained in good order. Extensive submarine cable repairs were carried out in Hong Kong Harbour, Kapsingmun and Island—Waglan. The cable between Tai Kok Tsui and Stonecutters was damaged beyond repair and taken out of commission.

30. Work on new electrical installations in the following places was in hand or completed:—Queen Mary Hospital, Gaol at Stanley, Wanchai Market, Trade School, Kowloon Magistracy,

Digitized by Google

Central British School, Tsun Wan Market, Travel Association Kiosk and at the Civil Hangar, Kai Tak. Six Government Buildings were rewired. Twenty-five telephones were installed, improvements and additions were carried out in six buildings in Hong Kong, five in Kowloon and two in New Territories.

31. The laying of two submarine cables and buried land cable work was completed.

BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE.

32. The volume of the new building works coming under the jurisdiction of the Buildings Ordinance, 1935 shewed a small increase in comparison with the figures for 1935.

33. Alterations and additions to existing buildings comprised a very large proportion of the work carried out. There was a decrease in the number of plans for new European houses but an increase in those of Chinese tenement type. Many buildings of a social character such as Churches and Schools were under construction during the year.

34. Plans were approved for the following more important works:—One block of eighteen European flats at junction of Plantation and Plunkett Roads; European house, Stanley Beach Road; Convent, Stanley; European house, Stanley; Pentecostal Church for Chinese, Castle Road; twelve Chinese houses, Hill Road; fourteen Chinese houses, Gloucester Road; eighteen Chinese houses, Stewart Road; twenty-eight Chinese houses, Tonnochy Road; New Cold Storage Building for Dairy Farm, Great George Street; ten Chinese houses, Hennessy Road; office block, 9 Queen's Road Central; office block, 10 Queen's Road Central; New Christian Church for Chinese, Tai Hang Road; school for Chinese, to accommodate one hundred and twenty boarders, ten teachers and two hundred and thirty day scholars, Hau Pui Loong; foundations for 100 ton crane, Kowloon Dock; Chinese Roman Catholic Chapel and Quarters, Kak Hang Tsun Road; Christian Church for Chinese, Ma Tau Chung Road; block of European flats sixteen storeys high, Nathan Road; Anglican Church, Waterloo Road; block of four Chinese houses, Austin Road; Private Hospital, Kiu Kiang Street; block of ten Chinese houses, Lai Chi Kok Road; block of four European houses, Nathan Road; block of five Chinese houses, Reclamation Street; extention of Weaving Factory, Un Chau Street.

35. Buildings of importance completed were:—European house, Tai Hang Road; large school for Chinese boys, to accommodate eighty boarders and three hundred and eighty day scholars, Third Street; large residence, Bonham Road; thirteen Chinese houses, Gloucester Road; twelve Chinese houses, Hennessy Road; ten Chinese houses, Heard Street; six Chinese houses, Lockhart Road; new residential quarters at French Convent; new banks and offices, (Marina House) 15 to 19

Digitized by Google

Queen's Road Central; Lower Peak Tram Station and flats, Garden Road; new Methodist Church, Hennessy Road; Central British School, off Argyle Street; extension to St. Mary's School, Austin Road; engineering workshop for China Light and Power Company, Tai Wan Road; block of four Chinese houses, Austin Road; block of six Chinese houses, Lai Chi Kok Road; block of ten Chinese houses, Lai Chi Kok Road; large Chinese residential Hotel, Nathan Road; six houses, European type flats, Nathan Road; four houses, European type flats, Peiho Street; fourteen Chinese houses, Shanghai Street; Public Dispensary, Yee Kuk Street.

36. Occupation permits for 167 Chinese tenement houses, of these eighty-eight were erected in Kowloon and seventy-nine on the Island. Occupation permits were issued for seventy-seven European type houses, of these fifty were erected in Kowloon and twenty-seven in Hong Kong.

37. The number of water flushed sanitary installations approved amounted to 2,078.

38. Twelve fires were reported, none resulting in loss of life, this immunity being traceable very largely to the protection afforded by buildings of reinforced concrete construction and to the improved form of staircase now called for.

39. Twelve collapses were reported, eight of which occurred as a result of the severe typhoon experienced in the month of August. There were three deaths and ten people were injured as the result of the typhoon collapses and eight persons were killed and seven injured when defective timbers caused the collapse of Nos. 2 to 8 Woo Sung Street. The total casualties for the year numbered twelve killed and eighteen injured.

40. Reclamation by private enterprise of the remaining area of approximately 18,000 square feet of Kowloon Marine Lot No. 97 was completed.

41. The Chinese Cemeteries in Hong Kong, Kowloon and New Kowloon were maintained in good order and provision was made for additional burial areas where required. The new area known as New Kowloon Cemetery No. 7, Customs Pass, is being developed.

Chapter XIII.

Justice and Police.

I.—The Courts of Hong Kong.

The Supreme Court of Hong Kong consists of a Chief Justice and one or more other judges. At present there is one Puisne Judge and one other Judge for the purpose of Appeals.

Digitized by Google

2. The jurisdiction of the Court is regulated by a number of Ordinances but generally it may be said that the Court exercises a Summary Jurisdiction in all actions where the claims do not exceed $1,000 and an Original Jurisdiction in all actions where the claims exceed that amount.

3. In addition to the above the Court exercises Admiralty, Probate, Divorce, Bankruptcy, Lunacy, Criminal and Appellate Jurisdiction.

4. The following is a brief summary of litigation and matters dealt with during the year 1936:—

1,753 actions were instituted in the Summary Jurisdiction and the amounts for which judgments were given totalled $207,828.40.

236 actions were instituted in the Original Jurisdiction and the amounts for which judgments were given totalled $993,292.78.

One action was instituted in the Admiralty Jurisdiction.

387 grants were made, or grants of other courts sealed, in the Probate Jurisdiction.

One Petition for Divorce was filed during 1936 and Decree absolute pronounced thereon.

263 persons were indicted in the Criminal Jurisdiction of whom 196 were convicted.

15 appeals were lodged in the Appellate Jurisdiction 12 of which were disposed of during the year.

Three Criminal appeals were lodged and disposed of during the year.

5. The lower civil courts are the land courts in the Northern and Southern districts of the New Territories, with jurisdiction over land cases in those districts, and the small debts courts of the same two districts. In these courts the District Officers sit to hear land and small debts cases.

6. The lower criminal courts are the magistrates' courts, two for Hong Kong island and a small area on the mainland opposite Shaukiwan, two for Kowloon, including the whole area south of the Kowloon hills, and one each for the two districts of the New Territories, in which the District Officers are the magistrates.

Digitized by Google

7. The following figures show the amount of work done by the lower courts in 1936:—

Civil:—

District Officer North,		
Land Court	115	cases.
Small Debts Court	100	,,
District Officer, South,		
Land Court	197	cases.
Small Debts Court	51	,,

Criminal:—

Hong Kong Magistracy, two courts	37,044	cases.
Kowloon Magistracy, two courts	25,249	,,
District Officer, North, one court	1,854	,,
District Officer, South, one court	374	,,

II.—The Police.

8. The Police Force of the Colony is under the control of the Inspector General of Police who is assisted by one Deputy Inspector General and twelve Superintendents. The force consists of four Contingents, European, Indian, and two Chinese, viz., Cantonese and Weihaiwei. The strength of the different Contingents is as follows:—

Europeans	266
Indians	817
Chinese (Cantonese)	740
Chinese (Weihaiwei)	287

In addition the Police Department controls the Anti-Piracy Guards, a force consisting of thirty-eight Russians and twenty-seven Indian Guards including three Sergeants together with four European Sergeants and one hundred and twenty-two Wei-hai-wei Chinese Constables, who are included in Police Strength. The Anti- Piracy Guards are employed and paid for by the Shipping Companies for service in the China Seas.

9. Further, the department supervises 506 Indian and Chinese Watchmen who are engaged by the Police Department and paid by private individuals for protection of private property. In addition there are 433 Indian and 8 Japanese Private Watchmen Registered at the Guards Offices.

Digitized by Google

10. The waters of the Colony are policed by a fleet of ten steam launches and five motor boats which employ a staff of two hundred and fifty-five Chinese under European officers.

11. There were 9,038 serious cases of crime in 1936, as against 6,373 in 1935, an increase of 2,665 or 41%. There was an increase of 17 cases in serious assault, 9 in assault with intent to rob, 36 in burglary, 6 in coinage offences, 97 in deportation, 11 in embezzlement, 72 in house and godown breaking, 2,355 in larceny, 25 in larceny on ship and wharf, 1 in manslaughter, 2 in murder, 23 in false pretences, 113 in receiving and 13 in other serious crimes. There was a decrease of 14 cases under the arms ordinance, 4 in intimidation, 3 in kidnapping, 57 in larceny from dwelling, 27 in robbery and 10 in Women and Girls Ordinance offences.

There were 37,549 minor cases during 1936 as against 33,000 in 1935, an increase of 4,549 or 13%.

III.—Prisons.

12. There are three prisons in the Colony. Victoria Gaol in Hong Kong is the main prison for males. This prison is built on the separate system, but segregation is difficult owing to lack of space and accommodation. It contains cell accommodation for 644 only and prisoners are often kept in association through unavoidable overcrowding. There is a branch male prison at Lai Chi Kok near Kowloon, with accommodation for 680 prisoners. In this establishment all the prisoners sleep in association wards and only selected prisoners are sent there as the prison was not originally built as such. It was converted from a Quarantine Station in 1920, for temporary use pending the building of a new prison. The third prison is the prison for females situated near the male prison at Lai Chi Kok. A new general prison for males at Stanley, Hong Kong, is nearing completion and will be opened in 1937.

13. The total number of persons committed to prison in the year 1936 was 16,106 as compared with 16,140 in 1935. The daily average number of prisoners in the prisons in 1936 was 1,917. The highest previous average was 1,796 in 1935. Over 87% of prisoners admitted are persons born outside the Colony.

14. The health of the prisoners generally was well maintained in the prisons.

15. The discipline in all three prisons was good.

16. Prisoners are employed at printing, bookbinding, shoemaking, tinsmithing, matmaking, tailoring, carpentering, weaving, gardening, laundry work, cleaning and minor repairs to buildings. The bulk of the Government printing and bookbinding is done in Victoria Gaol.

Digitized by Google

IV.—Remand Homes.

17. During the year 277 boys underwent sentences of detention for various crimes at the Remand Home for Juveniles (Boys), not under Prison administration and 87 girls underwent detention at the Remand Home for girls. The boys are given instruction in elementary reading and writing, as well as in rattan work, which teaches them a trade. The girls are given employment in house-work, laundry, and making and mending clothes. There are recreation facilities at both Homes.

There are also four Probationer Officers, two males and two females.

Lady visitors attend the Female Prison twice weekly to instruct long sentence prisoners in needle work.

18. Visiting Justices inspect and report on the prisons every fortnight.

Chapter XIV.

Legislation.

Fifty-nine Ordinances were passed during the year 1936. These and also the Regulations, Rules, By-laws and other subsidiary legislative enactments are published in a separate volume by the Government Printers. The fifty-nine Ordinances comprised two appropriations, four replacement, one incorporation, two consolidation, thirty-seven amendment and thirteen which were new to the Colony.

2. The Appropriation Ordinance (No. 42) applied a sum not exceeding $25,582,269 to the public service for the year 1937, and Ordinance No. 28 appropriated a supplementary sum of $122,771.15 to defray the charges of the year 1935.

3. Of the four replacement Ordinances the Quarantine and Prevention of Disease Ordinance (No. 7) followed more closely than the corresponding 1935 Ordinance which it replaced the lines indicated in the Articles of the International Sanitary Convention, 1926 and of the International Sanitary Convention for Aerial Navigation, 1933. The Deportation (British Subjects) Ordinance (No. 16) regulated the deportation of undesirable British Subjects forming a counterpart to the Deportation of Aliens Ordinance (No. 39), 1935. Previous to 1935 deportation, whether of British Subjects or of aliens, was regulated by a general deportation Ordinance. The Pleasure Grounds and Bathing Places Regulation Ordinance (No. 29) replaced the Public Places Regulation Ordinance, 1870 and the Chinese Recreation Ground Ordinance, 1923 providing for a better system of control. The Ordinances and Regulations of Hong Kong

Digitized by Google

(1937 edition) Ordinance (No. 51) provided for a revised edition of the Ordinances and apart from certain modifications was similar to the previous revision Ordinance.

4. Ordinance No. 41 provided for the incorporation of the Superioress in Hong Kong of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Precious Blood. The Ordinance followed the usual lines in such cases.

5. The Asylums Ordinance (No. 22) consolidated and to some extent amended the existing Asylums Ordinances. The Telecommunication Ordinance (No. 18) consolidated and amended the existing law on the subject.

6. The thirty-seven Amending Ordinances covered a wide range of subjects, viz.—Police Force (No. 2) Pensions (No. 3, 27, 34 and 53), Gambling (No. 5), Coinage Offences (No. 6 and 43), Magistrates (No. 8), Bills of Exchange and Falsification of Documents Amendment (No. 9), Liquors (No. 2), Summary Offences (No. 13 and 35), Stonecutters Island (No. 14), Companies (No. 15), Buildings (No. 19 and 58), Midwives (No. 21 and 49), Female Domestic Service (No. 23), Marriage (No. 24), Protection of Women and Girls (No. 25), Estate Duty (No. 26), Factories and Workshops (No. 30), Jury (No. 31), Crown Rights (Re-entry) (No. 32), Stamp (No. 36), Public Health (Sanitation) (No. 37), Public Health (Animals and Birds) (No. 38), Public Health (Food) (No. 39), Currency (No. 44 and 57), Stamp Duties Management (No. 45), Merchant Shipping (No. 47), Defences (Firing Areas) (No. 50), Cremation (No. 52), Quarantine and Prevention of Disease (No. 54).

7. The Ordinances new to the Colony were the Defences (Firing Areas) Ordinance (No. 1), Crown Rents (Apportionment) (No. 4), Married Women (No. 10), Tortfeasors (No. 11), Hong Kong Government Service (Levy on Salaries) (No. 17), Counterfeit Currency (Convention) (No. 20), Cane for Birch Substitution (No. 33), Public Reclamations Validation and Clauses (No. 40), Director of Medical and Sanitary Services (Change of Name) (No. 46), Nursing and Maternity Homes Registration (No. 48), Lighting Control (No. 55), Wild Animals Protection (No. 56), and Coronation Souvenirs (No. 59).

The subject matter of Ordinances Nos. 17, 33, 46, 48, 49 and 56 is self-evident from the short titles. Of the remainder No. 1 regulated practice firing so as to ensure the safety of shipping and of all persons who might be affected thereby; No. 4 provided for the payment of Crown rents by section owners of lots; Nos. 10 and 11 followed the lines of Part 1 and Part 6 respectively of the Law Reform (Married Women and Tortfeasors) Act, 1935; No. 20 gave effect to the terms of an Agreement reached at an International Convention for the suppression of Counterfeiting Currency, 1929; No. 40 validated certain undertakings on unleased Crown foreshores and sea beds,

Digitized by Google

and enacted certain provisions deemed to be incorporated in future Ordinances regulating similar undertakings; No. 55 provided for the control of lighting by the Governor in Council on occasions of emergency or by way of experiment; No. 59 prohibited the sale before the 1st June, 1937, of Coronation Souvenirs without a clear indication of their origin.

8. The subsidiary legislation covered a wide range of subjects including:—Supreme Court, Marriage, Evidence, Protection of Women and Girls, Vagrancy, Merchant Shipping, Rating, Rope Company's Tramway, Midwives, New Territories Regulation, University, Holiday, Vehicle and Traffic Regulation, Asiatic Emigration, Boarding-House, Importation and Exportation, Ferries, Societies, Plants, Registration of Imports and Exports, Wild Birds, Rating (Refunds), Post Office, Public Revenue Protection, Dogs, Watchmen, Motor Spirit, Liquors, Tobacco, Opium, Pensions, Factories and Workshops, Police Force, Prisons, Companies, Volunteer, Mercantile Marine Assistance Fund, Miscellaneous Licences, Naval Volunteer, Adulterated Food and Drugs, Public-Health (Food, Sanitation and Animals and Birds), Buildings, Hawkers, Official Signatures Fees, Deportation of Aliens, Quarantine and Prevention of Disease, Hong Kong Government Service (Levy on Salaries), Telecommunication, Pleasure Grounds and Bathing Places and Air Navigation.

Chapter XV.

Public Finance & Taxation.

The following tables show the Revenue and Expenditure for the five years 1932 to 1936 inclusive.

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*	*Surplus.*	*Deficit.*
1932	$33,549,716	$32,050,283	$1,499,433	—
1933	32,099,278	31,122,715	976,563	—
1934	29,574,286	31,149,156	—	$1,574,870
1935	28,430,550	28,291,636	138,914	—
1936	30,042,984	29,513,520	529,464	—

2. The revenue for the year 1936 amounted to $30,042,984, being $3,371,139 more than estimated, and $1,612,434 more than the revenue obtained in 1935. Owing to lower exchange the revenue included an item of $161,505.48 being the profit in dollars on the realization of sterling securities.

Digitized by Google

3. Duties on imported liquor and tobacco were considerably more than estimated on account of an increase in the tariff which became effective on 1st April, 1936. Duty on locally manufactured liquor, however, showed a decrease of some $60,000; the net increase being $1,593,672. Light Dues which are on a sterling basis were greater than estimated by $118,928 owing to lower exchange. Assessed Taxes were also greater than the estimate by $169,353 as vacant tenements were fewer and a further sign of the improvement in trade conditions is shown in an increase in Stamp Duties of $236,943 and in Water Excess Supply and Meter Rents of $272,519. Two large estates were the main causes of an increase in Estate Duty of $352,890. Receipts from the Post Office also showed an increase of $268,886 due to higher rates of postage and to expansion of the air mail services.

The trade depression which shows some signs of passing was still reflected in 1936 in a reduction of $56,823 in Liquor Licence fees and of $74,970 in Pawnbrokers Licences.

Receipts from the Kowloon-Canton Railway were also $77,530 lower than estimated due to competition by river and by road and to a decline in traffic to Sham Chun.

4. The expenditure for the year 1936 amounted to $29,513,520 being $84,628 less than estimated and $1,221,884 more than the expenditure in 1935.

5. Ordinary expenditure amounted to $26,460,621, Public Works Extraordinary to $3,052,900. Personal Emoluments amounted to $11,779,501 being $321,680 in excess of the estimated figure of $11,457,821 due to lower exchange; the excess would, however, have been greater by at least $1,144,000 but for the operation of the Levy on Salaries Ordinance No. 17 of 1936.

Other Charges amounted to $3,742,653 being $361,288 less than estimated.

6. *Debt.*—The public debt of the Colony consists of two issues. The 4% Conversion Loan raised in 1933 amounting to $4,838,000, the Sinking Fund of which, established in 1934, amounted on 31st December, 1936, to £42,836.14.11. Secondly the 3½% Dollar Loan raised in July, 1934. Bonds to the amount of $14,000,000 were issued at 99% producing $13,860,000. This loan is redeemable by drawings at par in each of the twenty-five years commencing in 1935 at the annual rate of one twenty-fifth of such issue. During each of the years 1935 and 1936 $560,000 was so redeemed thus reducing the amount outstanding to $12,880,000. Ordinance No. 11 of 1934 governs this issue and authorises the Governor to borrow up to a total of $25,000,000. The total public debt of the Colony on 31st December, 1936, amounted to $17,718,000 equal to about 7 months revenue as things are at present.

Digitized by Google

7. The Assets and Liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December, 1936, are shewn in the following statement:—

Liabilities.	$ ¢	Assets.	$ ¢
Deposits:—		Advances:—	
Contractors and Officers Deposits...	470,847.00	Miscellaneous	74,445.46
Insurances Companies	1,633,973.92	Pending Re-imbursements from future loan	9,206,268.63
Miscellaneous Deposits	1,640,994.15	Building Loans	846,060.70
House Service Account	27,510.50	Imprest Account	59,420.17
Government House and City Development Fund	839,704.12	Subsidiary Coin	145,625.00
Suspense Account ...	9,282.33	Note Issue Account.	2,300,000.00
Exchange Adjustment	23,301.03	Trade Loan Outstanding	298,800.00
Trade Loan Reserve.	837,313.59	Nickel Coinage Account	1,379,999.50
Praya East Reclamation	111,547.17	Unallocated Stores, (P.W.D.)	529,595.63
Coal Account	5,273.69	Unallocated Stores, (Railway)	123,461.94
Note Security Fund.	2,169,608.31	Cash Balance:—	
Nickel Coinage Security Fund	1,203,682.12	Treasurer	2,596,687.54
Crown Agents Overdraft	857.68	*Joint Colonial Fund	1,516,638.66
Total Liabilities.	8,973,895.61	Fixed Deposits:—	
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	12,917,132.29	General ...$1,050,000.00 Insurance Companies 1,633 973.92 Miscellaneous 130,050.75	2,814,024.67
Total.....$	21,891,027.90	Total.....$	21,891,027.90

* Joint Colonial Fund £94,000 0s. 0d.

Digitized by Google

8. *Main Heads of Taxation.*—The largest item of revenue is derived from the assessment tax, the sum of $5,976,160 being collected in 1936. This represents 19.89% of the total revenue or 20.07% of the revenue exclusive of land sales. The rates vary from 15% to 17% on the annual value of property and are for police, lighting and water services, etc. Port and Harbour Dues comprising Light Dues and Buoy Dues brought in the sum of $638,284.

9. Duties on intoxicating liquors realized $2,080,765, tobacco $4,066,519, postage stamps and message fees $2,058,886. A considerable sum is also derived from the opium monopoly, land revenue, stamp duties including estate duties and other fees. Land Sales during the year realized $269,230. The receipts of the Kowloon-Canton Railway which was completed in 1910 amounted to $1,245,469.

10. *Customs Tariff.*—There is an import tariff on all liquor, tobacco and light oils imported into the Colony for sale or use therein. There is no export tariff. The sale of opium is a Government Monopoly, and all importation of opium other than by the Government is prohibited. The importation of Dangerous Drugs is regulated in accordance with the terms of the Geneva Convention. Arms, ammunition, explosives and dangerous goods are subject to the normal Harbour and Police Regulations in regard to storage and movement. A special Foreign Registration fee of 20% of the value of a motor vehicle is payable in respect of any vehicle not produced within the British Empire.

11. The duties on imported liquor range from $0.80 per gallon on beer to $1.50 on Chinese liquor and to $13 on sparkling European wines. A 50% reduction in duty is allowed in respect of brandy grown or produced within the British Empire.

12. The duties on tobacco range from $0.90 per lb. on the lowest taxed unmanufactured tobacco to $2.60 per lb. on cigars. A reduction in duty is allowed to tobacco of Empire origin and/or of Empire manufacture.

13. A duty of 30 cents per gallon is payable on all light oils imported into the Colony.

14. *Excise and Stamp Duties.*—A reduction in duty is allowed on beer and Chinese type spirits manufactured in the Colony.

15. Stamp Duties are imposed on various instruments and where a consideration is involved are mainly *ad valorem*. The following are examples of the duties charged:—Affidavits, Statutory Declaration, etc., $3; Bills of Exchange (inward) and Cheques, 10 cents; Bills of Lading, 15 cents when freight under $5, 40 cents when freight $5 or over; Bond to secure the payment or repayment of money, 20 cents for every $100 or part

Digitized by Google

thereof; Conveyance on sale, $1 for every $100 or part thereof; Mortgages, principal security, 20 cents for every $100 or part thereof; Life Insurance Policy, 25 cents for every $1,000 insured; Receipts, 10 cents for amounts over $20; Transfer of Shares, 20 cents for every $100 of market value.

16. No Hut Tax or Poll Tax is imposed in the Colony.

R. A. C. NORTH,

Colonial Secretary.

Digitized by Google

Appendix.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST RELATING TO HONG KONG.

TITLE.	PRICE.	AGENTS FOR SALE.
	$	
Sessional Papers (Annual)	2.00	Colonial Secretariat and Government Printers.
Blue Book (Annual)	3.00	Colonial Secretariat, Government Printers and Crown Agents for the Colonies, London.
Ordinances-Ball's Revised Edition (In 6 Volumes) 1844-1923	90.00	Do.
Regulations of Hong Kong 1844-1925	30.00	Colonial Secretariat.
Ordinances and Regulations (Annual)	3.00	Colonial Secretariat, Government Printers and Crown Agents.
Administration Reports (Annual)	5.00	Colonial Secretariat.
Estimates (Annual)	3.00	Government Printers.
Government Gazettes (Weekly).	.50	Government Printers and Crown Agents.
Meteorological Bulletin (Monthly)	10.00 per annum	Government Printers.
Hong Kong Trade and Shipping Returns (Monthly)	2.00	Government Printers and Crown Agents.
Do. (Annual)	2.00	Do.
Hansards (Annual)	5.00	South China Morning Post, Hong Kong.
Historical & Statistical Abstract of the Colony of Hong Kong 1841-1930	4.00	Colonial Secretariat.
The Hong Kong Naturalist (Quarterly)	2.00	Hong Kong University.

Digitized by Google

Appendix,—*Continued.*

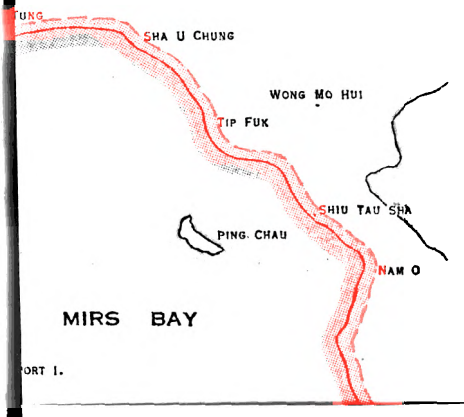
Title.	Price.	Agents for sale.
	$	
Hong Kong: A Guide Book	1.00	Kelly & Walsh, Ltd. and Brewers' Bookshop, Hong Kong.
Hong Kong: Around and About, by S. H. Peplow & M. Barker.	5.00	Do.
Echoes of Hong Kong & Beyond by L. Forster	1.50	Do.
Hong Kong—the Riviera of the Orient	1.00	Do.
Travellers Map of Hong Kong...	.10	Do.
Picturesque Hong Kong	1.25	Brewers' Bookshop.
The Tourist Guide 1936	1.25	Do.
The Dollar Directory 1937	1.00	Do.
A Hong Kong Sketch Book	2.50	Kelly & Walsh, Ltd.
Hilly Hong Kong	1.00	Do.
Glimpses of Hong Kong	1.00	Do.

Sections on Hong Kong will be found in the annual "China Year Book" published by the North China Daily News and Herald Ltd., Shanghai (London Agents Simpkin Marshall Ltd.) price $20.00, the annual "Directory and Chronicle of China, Japan etc." published by the Hong Kong Daily Press at Hong Kong, Price $12.00 and obtainable at their London office at 53, Fleet St., for £2, and "Comacrib China & Hong Kong Manual", price $35.00 (Brewers' Bookshop).

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

ORIES.



Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. 111] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W H. Ingrams. O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

(46526—48) Wt. 2970—2941 550 2/38 P. St. G. 377/7

S.O. Code No. 58–1825

Digitized by Google

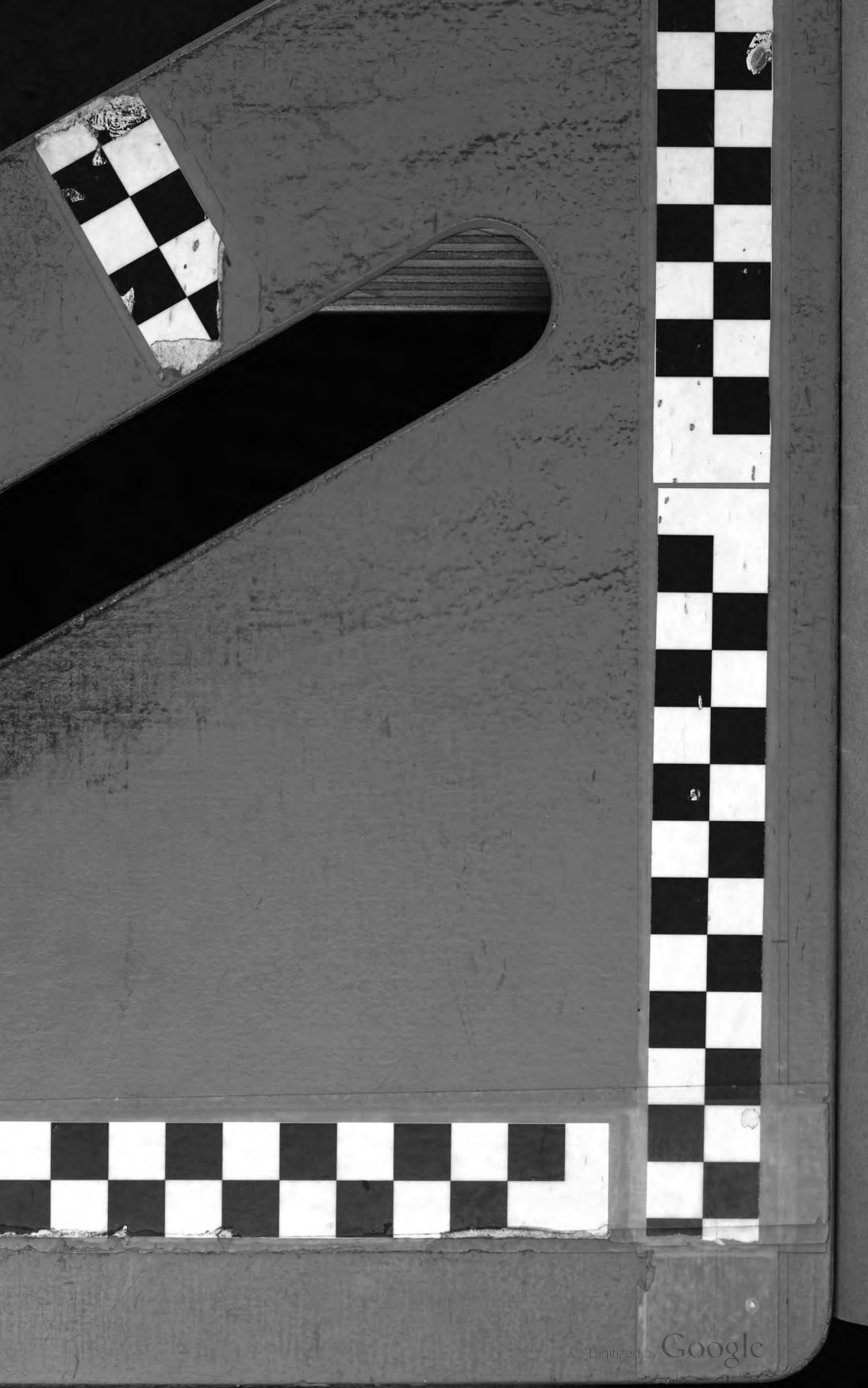
Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google


Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google


Digitized by Google

33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1824

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

NYASALAND, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1739 and 1776 respectively (Price 2s. 6d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 2s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. od. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. od. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps. [Colonial No. III] £1 (£1 os. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. od. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. An[illegible] [illegible]LFAST: 80, Chichester Street

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1824

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

NYASALAND, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1739 and 1776 respectively (Price 2s. 6d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937
Price 2s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF NYASALAND FOR THE YEAR 1936

CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
I.	GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY	2
II.	GOVERNMENT	5
III.	POPULATION	6
IV.	HEALTH	7
V.	SANITATION AND HOUSING	11
VI.	PRODUCTION	11
VII.	COMMERCE	27
VIII.	WAGES AND COST OF LIVING	35
IX.	EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS	36
X.	COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT	41
XI.	BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	48
XII.	PUBLIC WORKS	49
XIII.	JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS	50
XIV.	LEGISLATION	55
XV.	PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION	56
XVI.	MISCELLANEOUS	58
	APPENDIX. GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS	62
	MAP	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Nyasaland Protectorate consists of a strip of land some 520 miles in length and varying from 50 to 100 miles in width, bounded on the east by Lake Nyasa, on the south by Portuguese East Africa, on the west by North-Eastern Rhodesia and on the north by the Tanganyika Territory. It lies approximately between 9° 45′ and 17° 16′ south latitude and 33° and 36° east longitude and is roughly 37,000 square miles in area or nearly three-quarters the area of England. The most southerly portion is approximately 130 miles from the sea.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Southern
1-6-38
15-205

The Protectorate falls naturally into two divisions consisting of:—

(1) the western shore of Lake Nyasa, with the high tablelands separating it from the basin of the Luangwa River in Northern Rhodesia, and

(2) the region between the watershed of the Zambezi River and the Shire River on the west and the Lakes Chiuta and Chilwa and the Ruo River, an affluent of the Shire, on the east, including the mountain systems of the Shire Highlands and Mlanje and a small portion, also mountainous, of the south-eastern coast of Lake Nyasa.

Lake Nyasa, the third largest lake in Africa, is a deep basin 360 miles long and from 10 to 50 miles wide, lying at an altitude of 1,555 feet above the sea. Its greatest depth is 386 fathoms.

The only river of any importance in Nyasaland is the Shire which issues from the south end of the lake and flows in a general southerly direction until it joins the Zambezi, a distance of 250 miles. The river takes the overflow from the lake and during the rains it is navigable in its lower portion from the Zambezi to Chiromo.

The chief towns are Blantyre, with about 250 European inhabitants, Limbe, near Blantyre, and Zomba, the seat of the Government.

Climate.

Climatic conditions in Nyasaland are similar to those in other East African territories.

A marked contrast exists between the equable and healthy climate of the highlands, where at an altitude of 3,000 feet or more extreme heat is rarely experienced, and the heat of the Shire valley where temperatures rising to 115° Fahrenheit are recorded in October and November. The lake shore also possesses its own climate; the temperature seldom rises above 100° but the proximity of the lake and a generally heavy rainfall create a humid atmosphere which is particularly trying. The monsoon begins to blow strongly in September in conjunction with the sun's increase in southern declination and the first rains may be expected at any time after mid-October. From their beginning to the end of December it is usual to experience violent thunderstorms and heavy precipitations in a few hours, followed by an interval varying from one to fifteen or twenty days of considerable heat. With the return of the sun from its southern limit of declination the thunderstorms diminish in intensity and frequency and are replaced by steady rain—January, February and March being usually the wettest months both as regards the duration and the actual amount of rainfall. After March the frequency and intensity of the rainfall diminishes rapidly and from May to September the climate is comparatively cool and dry.

Digitized by Google

History.

Very little is known of the history of the region now called Nyasaland before the middle of the past century. Jasper Bocarro, a Portuguese, is said to have been the first European to visit Nyasaland. He appears to have travelled, early in the 17th century, from the Zambezi to the confluence of the Ruo and Shire Rivers and thence via the Shire Highlands and the Lujenda River to the coast at Mikandani.

The modern history of Nyasaland begins with the advent of Dr. Livingstone, who, after experiencing considerable difficulty in ascending the River Shire, discovered Lakes Chilwa and Pamalombe and on the 16th of September, 1859, reached the southern shore of Lake Nyasa. Livingstone was closely followed by a Mission under Bishop Mackenzie, sent out by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The Mission settled in the Shire Highlands but on account of the loss of many of its members by sickness and otherwise it withdrew in 1862. It was re-established in 1881 on Lake Nyasa, with headquarters on the island of Likoma, where it still remains.

In 1874 the Livingstonia Mission, named in honour of the great explorer, was founded by the Free Church of Scotland and sent out its first party to Nyasaland in the following year. They were joined in 1876 by the pioneers of the Church of Scotland Mission who chose the site of the present town of Blantyre and established themselves in the Shire Highlands while the Free Church applied itself to the evangelization of the inhabitants of the shores of Lake Nyasa.

The Missions were followed by the African Lakes Corporation and in 1883 Captain Foote, R.N., was appointed first British Consul for the territories north of the Zambezi, to reside at Blantyre.

A serious danger had arisen in connection with Arab slave traders who had settled at the north end of Lake Nyasa. At the time of Livingstone's first visit he found the Arabs established in a few places on what is now the Portuguese shore of the Lake and at Kota Kota on the west side. Arab caravans, trading with the tribes in and beyond the valley of the Luangwa, were in the habit of crossing the Lake on their way to and from the sea coast. The opposition of the newcomers to the slave trade carried on by Arab coastmen and natives alike resulted in a conflict with the Arab traders who had settled at the north end of Lake Nyasa under Mlozi and this conflict spread to the Yao Chiefs under their influence.

In the summer of 1889 Mr. Johnston (afterwards Sir H. H. Johnston, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.), arrived at Mozambique as His Britannic Majesty's Consul and proceeded to travel in the interior to enquire into the trouble with the Arabs.

Digitized by Google

Treaties having been concluded with the remaining Makololo Chiefs and with the Yaos around Blantyre, Mr. Johnston proceeded up Lake Nyasa leaving in charge Mr. John Buchanan, Acting Consul, who, after receiving news of a conflict between a well-armed Portuguese expedition commanded by Major Serpa Pinto and Mlauri, a powerful Makololo Chief on the Lower Shire, proclaimed a British Protectorate over the Shire province on the 21st of September, 1889.

In 1891, an Anglo-Portuguese Convention ratified the work of Mr. Johnston, Mr. Sharpe (later Sir A. Sharpe, K.C.M.G., C.B.), and other pioneers of British Central Africa and in the following spring a British Protectorate over the countries adjoining Lake Nyasa was proclaimed. The Protectorate of Nyasaland, under the administration of a Commissioner, was confined to the regions adjoining the Shire and Lake Nyasa, the remainder of the territory under British influence north of the Zambezi being placed, subject to certain conditions, under the British South Africa Company.

On the 22nd of February, 1893, the name of the Protectorate was changed to " The British Central Africa Protectorate " but the old name " Nyasaland Protectorate " was revived in October, 1907, by the Order in Council which amended the Constitution.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Central Government.

The Protectorate is administered by the Governor, assisted by an Executive Council composed of the Chief Secretary, the Treasurer and the Attorney-General *ex-officio* and at present the Senior Provincial Commissioner. The laws of the Protectorate are made by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council constituted by the Nyasaland Order in Council, 1907. The Legislative Council consists of the Governor, four officials members including the three *ex-officio* members of the Executive Council and four unofficial members. The unofficial members who are nominated by the Governor without regard to any specific representation are selected as being those most likely to be of assistance to the Governor in the discharge of his responsibilities and hold office for a period of three years. In addition to indirect representations by at least one of the unofficial members, who for many years has been selected from one of the Missionary Societies, native interests are directly in the hands of the Senior Provincial Commissioner, the Chief Secretary and the Governor himself.

Departments of Government.

The principal departments of Government whose headquarters are in Zomba are those dealing with Finance, Legal Affairs, Medical and Sanitary Services, Agriculture, Public Works,

Digitized by Google

Education, Police, Prisons and Lunatic Asylum, Geological Survey, Veterinary Services, Forests, Mechanical Transport and Posts and Telegraphs. The High Court and Lands Office, including Surveys and Mines, are in Blantyre and the headquarters of the Customs Department is at Limbe.

Provincial Administration.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate is divided into two provinces each of which is in charge of a Provincial Commissioner responsible to the Governor for the administration of his province. The provinces are divided into districts in charge of District Commissioners responsible to the Provincial Commissioner. The provinces of the Protectorate are as follows:—

Province.	*Comprising Districts.*	*Land Area. Square miles.*	*Population.*	*Headquarters.*
Southern	Lower Shire, Chikwawa, Central Shire, Cholo, Mlanje, Blantyre, Chiradzulu, Zomba, Upper Shire, South Nyasa.	12,114	791,111	Blantyre
Northern	Ncheu, Dedza, Fort Manning, Lilongwe, Dowa, Kota Kota, Kasungu, Mzimba, West Nyasa, North Nyasa.	25,260	831,815	Lilongwe

III.—POPULATION.

Nyasaland has a population of 1,838 Europeans, 1,558 Asiatics, and 1,619,530 natives, divided between the two provinces in the following proportions:—

	Europeans.		*Asiatics.*		*Natives.*	
	Males.	*Females.*	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Males.*	*Females.*
Southern Province	806	606	1,020	304	380,557	407,818
Northern Province	262	164	207	27	374,468	456,687

The following table records the births and deaths of Europeans and Asiatics during the past three years:—

	1934.		*1935.*		*1936.*	
	Births.	*Deaths.*	*Births.*	*Deaths.*	*Births.*	*Deaths.*
Europeans ...	40	13	44	11	35	18
Asiatics ...	48	16	63	16	71	18

Although Europeans are resident in every district of the Protectorate, 76 per cent. of the European population is contained in the following five districts:—

Blantyre	681
Zomba	286
Cholo	194
Mlanje	119
Lilongwe	125

Digitized by Google

The native population is also very unevenly distributed. For instance, in the Southern Province the number of persons to the square mile varies from 557 on fertile land near the townships to 13·9 in the arid areas of the Shire Valley away from the river.

Marriages.—Eight marriages were registered under the British Central Africa Marriage Ordinance No. 3 of 1902 during the year as compared with 19 in the preceding year. In seven cases the contracting parties were Europeans and in one case natives.

Under the Native Marriage (Christian Rites) Registration Ordinance, 1923, 3,467 marriages were celebrated compared with 3,269 in the preceding year.

IV.—HEALTH.

The medical staff consists of a Director of Medical Services, a Senior Health Officer, a Senior Medical Officer, a Pathologist, a Medical Entomologist and 14 Medical Officers. The nursing personnel comprises a Matron and 10 Nursing Sisters.

In addition to the European Officers there are 9 Sub-Assistant Surgeons, 17 African Hospital Assistants and 170 African Dispensers.

Two European Sanitary Superintendents, 16 African Sanitary Inspectors, 44 Vaccinators and a varying number of sanitary labourers are employed chiefly in the townships of Zomba, Blantrye and Limbe.

The European Community.

The majority of Europeans live in the healthy highlands and this fact and the influence of space, sunlight and the precautions which every intelligent person normally takes in the tropics, combine to produce a healthy community.

Medical attention to Europeans and hospital accommodation for them is provided chiefly by Government, but in part also by some of the Missions whose staffs include doctors who practise privately. There are Government hospitals at Zomba and Blantyre which admit both official and non-official Europeans, the patients at Blantyre being chiefly non-officials.

Hospital admissions during 1936 numbered 161 of which 79 were at Zomba and 82 at Blantyre. The most frequent causes of admission were malaria 26, amoebic dysentery 25 and confinements 14. Out-patients numbered 940 at Zomba and 289 at Blantyre.

The Asiatic Community.

Government subsidizes a ward for the treatment of Asiatics at the Church of Scotland Mission, Blantyre, and in most of the native hospitals throughout the country it is possible to provide some accommodation for Asiatics.

Digitized by Google

The Asiatic community has also contributed towards the cost of accommodation at other Mission hospitals in the Protectorate.

The African Community.

There are 15 native hospitals in the country, one of 100 beds, six of 50 and eight of 30. Three of the larger dispensaries have small wards attached to which patients are admitted. The total number of cases treated at the hospitals and main dispensaries during 1936 was:—

New in-patients	9,757
Out-patients	435,489

In addition to the hospitals there are 94 dispensaries distributed throughout the country, inclusive of those with wards attached. Most of them are well constructed buildings of brick and iron but there are still a number of temporary wattle-and-daub buildings. More dispensaries are badly needed in some of the districts.

The rural dispensaries during 1936 treated 301,738 new cases, 181,880 males, and 119,858 females.

The total number of cases treated at Government hospitals and dispensaries is a formidable one but roughly 70 per cent. of the total is dealt with at the dispensaries, which treat only minor ailments. The majority of the natives suffer from either schistosomiasis, ankylostomiasis, or malaria and sometimes from all three, but comparatively seldom receive any in-patient treatment because the hospital of any particular district serves for the most part of the population in its immediate vicinity only and the rural dispensers have insufficient knowledge either to diagnose or properly to treat these complaints.

Though the standard of knowledge and ability of the rural dispensers is slowly improving, efficient diagnosis and treatment of the three diseases named can alone have but little effect on the incidence of these diseases. It is education in the elements of hygiene and sanitation that the native needs, not doses of medicine.

There are encouraging signs that Native Authorities are taking a real and effective interest in village sanitation. Many of them have made great improvements in the villages under their control and welcome the efforts that are being made to instruct the villagers in the elements of hygiene and sanitation.

Venereal Diseases.

Venereal disease is not prevalent in Nyasaland though cases are reported from time to time from all parts of the country. It is perhaps commonest in the neighbourhood of the townships and in the northern districts from which most of the emigrant labour is derived. The Public Health Ordinance includes clauses providing for the compulsory treatment of venereal disease but they are of little practical value for on the one hand the penalties

Digitized by Google

can seldom be enforced and on the other a large majority of the reported cases are those who have voluntarily submitted to treatment.

The natives have their own so-called cures and are averse to the long-continued attendance at hospitals which European treatment involves. The medical department relies on propaganda and instruction by means of pamphlets and lectures to bring to the natives a realization of the serious nature of venereal disease.

Special venereal disease clinics have been inaugurated and most of the hospitals have one special ward for the accommodation of cases.

Woman and Child-Welfare.

The chief hindrance to progress in woman and child-welfare work is lack of education amongst the women. The effects of this are primitive obstetrics and barbarious methods of infant-feeding and also great difficulty in teaching the women other methods. For the most part it is only the older women and widows who are prepared to undertake a course in obstetrics and child-welfare work and it is of course the older women who are in general the least educable.

Government has recently instituted a register for native midwives and issues certificates. A syllabus of training has been laid down and the Church of Scotland Mission at Blantyre has already produced a number of competent native midwives.

Mission Medical Work.

The Missions have between them twenty-six hospitals at which general medical work is carried on. They are chiefly concerned with the treatment of leprosy and with woman and child-welfare work, for both of which they receive subsidies from Government. The Church of Scotland Mission at Blantyre provides a course of training for African hospital assistants and the majority of assistants in Government employment are obtained from this source.

Lunatic Asylum.

There is one lunatic asylum in the Protectorate and this is situated at Zomba. The European staff consists of one Superintendent and one Deputy Superintendent. These officers also hold appointments in the Prisons Department. The African staff includes both male and female attendants. The Chief Inspector of Prisons is also the Chief Inspector of the Asylum.

There is accommodation for one European, one Asiatic and 87 African males. The African male accommodation consists of 58 single cells and one association ward, the last-mentioned being capable of holding ten inmates. In addition there is one observation ward with nine single rooms and a hospital providing ten beds. The female section, whch is entirely separate, has 20 single rooms.

Digitized by Google

During 1936 there were 16 new admissions comprising one European female, one Asiatic male, ten African males and four African females as compared with six African males in 1935.

One Asiatic male and two African males were released to the care of relatives.

Four African males died during the year, the causes of deaths being leprosy, pulmonary tuberculosis, status epilepticus and entero colitis.

At the end of 1936 there remained in the asylum one European female, 79 African males and 17 African females. The daily average strength was ·14 European females, ·16 Asiatic males, 77·17 African males and 16·73 African females, making a total average of 94·20 as compared with 89·98 the previous year.

The health of the inmates was exceptionally good considering the crowded state of the asylum. The daily average number in hospital was only 4·57. Inmates were weighed monthly whenever possible and 53·49 per cent. gained while 31·96 per cent. lost weight.

Inmates who are able to work are given every encouragement to do so within the precincts of the asylum. The value of labour performed and produce from gardens and plantations during the year amounted to £126 13s. 4d.

Members of the staff of the Church of Scotland Mission at Zomba and Domasi held religious services for the male inmates and gave instructional talks to the females.

Lunatics—District Prisons.

In addition to the Central Asylum at Zomba, lunatics are from time to time admitted to district prisons for safe custody pending certification. During 1936 seven criminal and 39 non-criminal alleged lunatics were so detained. Of these, four criminal and six non-criminal were duly certified and transferred to the Central Asylum while three criminal and 30 non-criminal were released. There were three lunatics awaiting certification at the end of the year.

	Criminal or "Detained during the Governor's pleasure" Lunatics.			*Non-Criminal or Alleged Lunatics.*		
	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*
Remaining on 31.12.35	—	—	—	—	—	—
Admitted during 1936	6	1	7	34	5	39
Transferred to Criminal Lunatic Asylum.	3	1	4	5	1	6
Released during 1936...	3	—	3	28	2	30
Remaining on 31.12.36	—	—	—	1	2	3

Digitized by Google

V.—SANITATION AND HOUSING.

Sanitation in Nyasaland is still primitive although, owing to generous grants from the Colonial Development Fund, conditions in the townships have greatly improved of recent years.

The year 1934 saw the inception in Zomba of a scheme which had been under consideration for some years for housing native domestic servants in a special village on the borders of the township. Previously it had been the custom for domestic servants with their families to live in the compounds of their employers, with the result that it was not uncommon to find as many as twelve native men, women and children living in one small compound. The consequent difficulties of sanitary control and the risk of conveyance of disease such as malaria and dysentery to Europeans can readily be appreciated. Owing to lack of money the scheme is still very far from being complete but more houses are being built every year and it is hoped eventually to have a village of well constructed brick huts, with a piped water supply, electric light and provision for recreation.

The townships of Blantyre and Limbe are establishing similar villages for natives employed within the townships.

Sanitation in the rural areas is a major problem owing to the ignorance and poverty of the natives and lack of supervisory sanitary staff, but little can be hoped from anything in the shape of compulsory legislation; indeed compulsion as a rule does more harm than good. Such compulsory measures as are used are left in the hands of the Native Authorities who are encouraged to promulgate simple sanitary orders which the villagers are expected to obey. All natives appreciate the value of a good water supply, although it is possibly the availability and quantity rather than the quality of it which interest them and several chiefs and headmen are now developing their wells and springs and protecting them from pollution. The construction of latrines is regarded on the whole as a necessary concession to European prejudices. It is a matter for congratulation therefore that so many villages have installed latrines and do use them.

The improvement of general housing conditions is a matter requiring considerable propaganda and progress is necessarily slow, but most of the chiefs and many of the better educated natives have erected quite well-built and in some cases attractive cottages for themselves, and these serve to stimulate healthy emulation amongst the others.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

Weather Conditions.

Weather conditions during the 1935-6 season were generally not conducive to good growth of most crops, particularly cotton and tobacco. Tea was an exception and most cereals yielded

Digitized by Google

fairly well. Leguminous crops suffered from the localized character of the early rains, which characteristic continued later than usual, and from the general heavy rains of the mid season.

The rainfall figures for the six wet and six dry months of the 1935-6 season are given in the following table.

SEASON 1935-6.

	Zone.	*Total rainfall 1 Nov., 1935, to 30 April, 1936.* Inches.	*Normal for six wet months.* Inches.	*Total rainfall 1 May to 31 Oct., 1936.* Inches.	*Normal for six dry months.* Inches.
Port Herald ...	A	40·09	29·1	2·17	3·6
Port Herald Experimental Station.		42·88	28·8	7·46	3·2
Chikwawa		36·55	29·7	3·44	2·3
Cholo	B	52·46	48·8	9·02	8·1
Makwasa		61·55	46·8	8·15	4·4
Nsikisi		57·15	—	9·06	—
Lipumulo		47·49	—	6·98	—
Mikundi		56·77	—	9·03	—
Upper Mboma ...		52·65	—	10·13	—
Masambanjati ...		68·48	—	16·01	—
Mlanje	C	71·48	66·6	14·66	14·5
Chitakali		81·98	65·5	29·77	12·1
Thornwood... ...		76·92	67·8	12·31	11·6
Ruo...		63·11	53·7	13·00	6·3
Glenorchy		62·06	56·2	12·88	10·1
Sayama		75·21	56·0	12·22	10·5
Lujeri		92·26	76·3	21·70	14·3
Chisambo		99·80	—	21·49	—
Nalipiri	D	60·40	51·9	16·52	11·0
Blantyre	E	60·88	39·9	·92	3·3
Limbe Catholic Mission.		47·42	—	5·29	—
Chingaluwe ...		46·07	42·8	4·65	3·3
Nyambadwe ...		50·20	39·0	1·20	2·9
Chiradzulu Boma ...		38·22	40·0	3·06	2·5
Nyungwe		37·42	—	·92	—
Michiru	F	27·85	35·3	1·26	2·0
Namalanga... ...	G	24·55	29·9	3·70	1·0
Nasonia		38·97	36·9	8·19	1·9
Zomba Experimental Station.	H	51·78	46·8	1·73	4·6
Zomba Plateau ...		63·31	—	8·15	—
Likwenu		57·91	—	·33	—
Police Headquarters		52·66	41·9	1·08	1·8
Domasi		52·57	52·7	—	—
Nankunda		81·63	—	—	—
Malosa		58·21	—	·70	—
Mbidi	I	41·68	35·8	—	1·5
Makwapala Experimental Station.		46·95	34·0	1·15	1·5
Mwanza	K	46·99	37·2	5·70	·6
Liwonde	L	28·72	31·7	·81	1·1
Bilila		27·98	28·0	—	·7
Mandimha	M	39·61	34·0	—	·3
Namwera		40·11	42·2	1·50	·3

Digitized by Google

	Zone.	Total rainfall 1 Nov., 1935, to 30 April, 1936. Inches.	Normal for six wet months. Inches.	Total rainfall 1 May to 31 Oct., 1936. Inches.	Normal for six dry months. Inches.
Chipunga		42·32	35·0	1·04	·8
Fort Johnston ...	N	31·24	29·4	·55	1·2
Monkey Bay ...		23·16	29·2	·02	·9
Malindi		44·35	—	—	—
Golomoti		42·59	29·5	—	·1
Ncheu	P	39·16	37·0	·49	·9
Likuni	S	32·71	32·9	1·00	1·5
Chimvua		35·10	—	1·01	—
Lilongwe		31·36	32·7	1·10	·8
Nathenje		33·68	—	·37	—
Mpali	T	38·34	—	—	—
Dowa		32·63	33·1	·51	·7
Fort Manning ...		33·87	39·8	3·03	2·5
Domira Bay ...	U	34·23	31·0	·17	·1
Dedza	V	45·31	39·7	·61	2·2
Kasungu	X	37·48	29·1	·11	·3
Mzimba		36·27	31·7	—	·2
Kota Kota... ...	Y	67·14	48·2	2·95	2·0
Chinteche	Z	68·45	62·9	11·80	5·1
Livingstonia ...		83·66	57·5	2·30	6·2
Karonga		37·06	52·3	1·50	2·8
Salima		43·96	—	·23	—
Glengary		64·19	—	12·46	—

A résumé of weather conditions in areas growing tobacco, the most important economic crop of Nyasaland, is given on page 16.

Economic Conditions.

The amounts and local values of agricultural exports for 1936 are set out below and the figures for 1935 are given for comparison.

	1935. Amount.	1935. Value. £	1936. Amount.	1936. Value. £
Capsicums and chillies lb.	47,869	598	12,119	151
Coffee ... ... cwt.	603·5	1,127	336·6	628
Maize and maize flour lb.	20,185	23	1,203,513	1,345
Rice ... ... ,,	250	1	—	—
Tobacco :—				
Dark-fired ... ... ,,	8,704,943	254,012	11,001,797	320,885
Flue-cured ... ... ,,	1,020,107	29,981	1,608,079	46,903
Air-cured ... ... ,,	443,591	12,938	781,665	22,799
Tea ... ... ,,	6,042,532	223,876	7,706,088	256,870
Cotton (lint) ... ... tons	3,658·5	204,851	2,375	133,007
Potatoes ... ... lb.	113,960	477	83,279	335
Beeswax ... ... ,,	10,347	445	25,983	1,083
Cotton seed ... ... tons	1,183	2,366	1,678·7	3,357
Fibre ... ... lb.	355	1	936,969	3,346
Rubber ... ... ,,	131,760	549	206,535	861
Groundnuts ... ... tons	20·5	103	—	—
Strophanthus... ... lb.	9,646	964	16,191	1,619
Soya beans ... ... ,,	—	—	560,000	1,250

Digitized by Google

The most notable increases of exports during 1936 were in tea, tobacco, fibre, and soya beans, which for the first time figured as an appreciable export.

In the case of tea, the increase of 27·5 per cent. was due to improved yields per acre, the improvement in prices and the coming into bearing of new acreages. The increase in tobacco production was due to a large increase in the number of registered native growers, amounting to increases of 47·7 per cent. in the Northern Province and 54·8 per cent. in the Southern Province. The increase in the total tobacco crop was only 26·4 per cent. due largely to weather conditions. The increase in fibre was owing to the re-opening of estates in Lower Shire areas due largely to the increase in value of sisal.

It is unfortunate that the increase in cotton production anticipated up to the mid-season of 1936 was not realized. The reasons for this require careful examination as the weather cannot solely be blamed. Insect damage was very extensive and this and other aspects will be dealt with later.

The average prices paid for native tobacco were slightly lower than in 1935, especially in the Northern Province, due to the inferior quality of the crop. The amount sold in central buying stations was much in excess of the estimates. Every effort is made to control the amount of native dark tobacco produced according to market conditions but in the year under review some slight over-production of certain types and grades could not be avoided.

Locusts.

The red-winged locust, *Nomadacris septemfasciata, Serv.*, was the only species occurring in the Protectorate during the year. The development of adults of the tenth generation was, generally, on a less intensive scale than in previous years. The scattered, quiescent nature of the hopper bands in some areas was again noticeable, and in the Domira Bay area *dissocians* phase habits were conspicuous in the small resulting swarms.

A prolonged hopper period and late developing hopper bands were also recorded, though in the Lower Shire and Chikwawa districts a fairly normal developmental period was once again noticeable.

The first flying swarms of the tenth generation developed in March and by April most hopper bands had reached the adult stage. Vacation of the lower levels by these swarms occurred as usual, but dull weather with high humidity during the middle of the year appeared to check any concentrated flights and a very irregular circling movement in the Shire Highlands as a whole continued for the main part of the year. It was not until well on into December that a definite north and north-west movement set in and it was then observed that there appeared to be

Digitized by Google

a heavier infestation in the Protectorate than previous evidence had indicated. Some of these swarms penetrated districts of the Northern Province, Dowa and Kota Kota, which had been free nearly the whole year. Except for an occasional swarm entering from Northern Rhodesia, however, the three northern districts, North Nyasa, Mombera and Kasungu, were not invaded during the year.

Damage done, both by hopper bands and adult swarms, was considerably less than in previous years.

Advisory Bodies and Policy.

The Board of Agriculture met to transact business appertaining to the extended cultivation of tung oil in the highland areas. It is evident that a large central oil extraction plant will soon be required in the Cholo district and that such a plant will be far more economical than numerous small ones.

The Native Welfare Committee continued to advise Government on the co-ordination of the work and policies of the departments mainly responsible for native development and on matters bearing on native welfare in general.

As far as the Department of Agriculture is concerned, such matters as better food, better animal husbandry and better agricultural methods are kept well in view in all work which is carried out on experimental and demonstration stations, and in district work carried out by all officers. The commitments of Nyasaland demand an increase in economic crops which must largely be grown by native cultivators, especially along the northern extension of the railway, but district work on such crops is always accompanied by efforts to improve the food crops by the issue of good seed and advice on better methods of cultivation. This work is accompanied by propaganda and demonstration in the maintenance of soil fertility in cultivated lands. Methods of combating soil erosion, which is now a serious matter in many districts, has been the concern of travelling officers for the past twelve years and works to minimize soil erosion can now be seen in numerous fields in all central areas.

It has been a matter of concern for many years that the diet of the native cultivator is ill-balanced and that far too much reliance is placed upon maize as the staple food. There is a lack of protein, fats and certain vitamins in the food of the average native which is conducive to various deficiency diseases. Even in areas where a fair proportion of protein is available in the form of fish, meat and milk it is apparent that many natives, especially children, are ill-nourished and receive a very ill-balanced diet over long periods.* Efforts are now being made

* See also Agricultural Survey of Central Nyasaland, 1933.

Digitized by Google

to increase the cultivation of groundnuts and soya beans and this method of improving the diet of the native is to be kept well in view in coming years.

Close touch is maintained between the specialists of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation and the Department of Agriculture in such matters as pure seed supplies, rotation cropping and grading. Where dark tobacco is the main cash crop the supervisors of the Native Tobacco Board are in constant touch with technical officers of the Department. The Assistant Director of Agriculture and Chemist is technical adviser to the Board and directs the technical, experimental and tobacco seed selection work on the Zomba and Lilongwe stations so that continuity of policy is assured.

Further demonstration, experimentation and seed production is carried on at the Karonga, Mlanje, Port Herald and Domira Bay stations, the last named being the headquarters of the Cotton Specialist of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation, who, as the chief cotton authority in Nyasaland, advises the Department primarily on seed supplies for the industry.

An account of the extension work among native cultivators would not be complete without a reference to the development of small-holdings or family farms. The establishment of a permanent agriculture and sound economic progress in most districts are only possible when such small holdings are to be found in large numbers. Particular reference may be made to the northern districts where many natives have difficulty in finding employment and it is uncertain whether certain economic crops will be successful. It may be decades before many natives are induced to form family-farm groups. There are no demonstration or experimental farms in the four large northern districts and it is very necessary to provide demonstration for the people concerned of all agricultural work dealing with improvements in method or the introduction and cultivation of new plants. A start has been made with the institution of model small holdings on the Lilongwe Station, the owners being quite independent but under the direction of the officer in charge as regards seed, cultivation and rotations. Small holders in the vicinity of Zomba who have been established for some years on leasehold and their own freehold land are also under careful supervision.

Tobacco.

Weather conditions in nearly all tobacco areas were not conducive to good growth and ripening and this was reflected in the quality of the crop which was subsequently harvested and sold.

Weather conditions during December cannot be said to have been generally good, the greater part of the rain occurring in heavy falls during the period 13th to 22nd December. During January the weather was characterised by hot dry spells, particularly in the northern part of the dark tobacco areas of the

Digitized by Google

Northern Province. Good growing conditions were experienced at high and medium elevations in Dedza, Ncheu, Zomba, Mlanje and Blantyre. The localized character of the rainfall was continued for several days during early February but heavy rains commenced in most southern areas about the 12th and continued to the end of the month. Excessive rains were experienced particularly in and around Zomba, the falls recorded for February being the heaviest since 1906. North of Ncheu and Golomoti, again, as far as Lilongwe, rains in this critical month were much in excess of normal. Much of the Dowa and Kota-Kota districts also experience excessive rains.

Rainfall during March in the Southern Province was generally slightly in excess of normal and was accompanied by a long spell of dull days and low temperatures. Following on the excessive wet February, these conditions had an adverse effect on the growth of tobacco. Similar conditions occurred in many parts of the Northern Province, particularly in Dedza, southern Lilongwe, the Dowa highlands and Kota-Kota.

Conditions during April in most northern areas were about normal with small showers throughout the month. Elsewhere in southern and central tobacco areas rainfall was slightly below normal with much overcast weather and temperatures lower than normal. May and June were fine with a tendency towards low temperatures.

The average amounts produced per grower on Native Trust Land were 183 lb. in the Northern Province and 231 lb. in the Southern Province.

The amounts of dark tobacco purchased from Native Trust Land and private estate growers are given under provinces in the following table:—

	Northern Province. lb.	*Southern Province.* lb.
Native Trust Land	7,908,847	2,616,712
Private Estates	2,093,419	1,202,740

The total figure for the dark tobacco crop was thus 13,821,718 lb. The corresponding figure for 1935 was 10,291,560 lb.

European tobacco occupied 7,349 acres as compared with 6,144 acres in 1935, while production totalled 2,663,248 lb. as against 2,112,096 lb. in 1935. The total was made up of 2,109,016 lb. flue-cured, 81,424 lb. air-cured and 472,808 lb. dark-fired leaf. The state of the industry was such that Government found it expedient to give advances to planters during the 1936 season. The 1935 season was not financially favourable to European growers and it is somewhat alarming to note that many of these growers are still attempting to produce bright tobacco in areas where climatic conditions are usually quite different from those prevailing during the average growing

Digitized by Google

season in the bright tobacco belts of the United States of America. It is computed that nearly 25 per cent. of these European growers are planting in unsuitable or " border line " areas near the tea belts.

Legislation was passed in 1936 to enable the marketing of the surplus of flue-cured tobacco over local requirements to be conducted with advantage to the grower, and power is given by this legislation to a Control Board to form a pool and to use certain funds for finding new outlets for bright leaf.

At the end of 1936, stocks of Nyasaland tobacco in the United Kingdom stood at 30,406,117 lb., a $2\frac{5}{12}$ years' supply on the usual basis. Consumption of Nyasaland tobacco during 1936 amounted to 12,450,261 lb., a decrease of 74,854 lb. when compared with that of the previous year and represented 26 per cent. of all Empire tobacco consumed. The latter figure compares with 28·2 per cent. in 1935.

Exports of tobacco from Nyasaland in 1936 amounted to 9,283,624 lb. of leaf and 4,107,917 lb. of strips. There is an excess of 588,793 lb. in deliveries over imports into the United Kingdom during 1936 which compares favourably with the following figures for other Empire countries.

	Excess lb.
Southern Rhodesia	3,130,387
India	1,010,994

It is apparent that the point of production of most types and grades of tobacco was on the safe side and that stocks are likely to be considerably reduced in 1937. Exports of Nyasaland dark leaf to West African dependencies amounted to 199,649 lb., while small quantities went to Tanganyika, Dutch East Indies and Egypt.

Cotton.

The 1936 season was disappointing for cotton growers especially in view of the propaganda which was carried out, the establishment of new seed depots and the large expenditure on supervision. In the Lower River areas the crop amounted to 4,653 tons of seed cotton, a decrease of 28 per cent. compared with the 1935 figures.

In the central part of the Southern Province, the amount produced was 657 tons as against 1,429 in the previous year, and in the area between northern Ncheu and Kota-Kota production dropped from 1,774 to 934 tons of seed cotton. The production of cotton on Native Trust Land, inclusive of 87 tons in North Nyasa was thus 6,381 tons. Private estates accounted for 882 tons and the total for the country was therefore 7,263 tons, a figure which compares very favourably with the 11,237 tons of 1935. Exports amounted to 13,301 bales; the 1935 figure was approximately 20,485 bales.

Digitized by Google

The average price for No. 1 grade was 1·428d., for No. 2, 0·926d. and for No. 3, 0·639d. It is estimated that the sum of £75,451 was paid to Native Trust Land growers and that of that sum £59,646 was paid for No. 1 grade. The production factor per pound of seed issued was 4·8 in the Lower River, 1·9 in the central part of the Southern Province and 0·4 in the area of the northern extension of the railway from Ncheu to Kota Kota.

The percentage of No. 1 grade in the Native Trust Land crop was 70·1.

European production of cotton amounted to 295 tons as against 303 tons in the previous year. It is necessary to explain the comparative failure of the cotton crop in 1936 and the following extract from the report of the Entomologist is of particular value in this connexion:

> " While it must be admitted that the climatic conditions of the season were inclined to be unfavourable for the growth of the cotton plant and the development of flowers and bolls, it seemed highly probable that the poor crop could not be due solely to these factors. At Port Herald, for example, although the mean maximum temperature each month from March to May and from July onwards was slightly lower than in 1935, the mean monthly minimum temperature was always slightly higher and the average monthly temperature was a few degrees higher during nearly the whole season. On the other hand, the relative humidity was some ten per cent. higher than during the past three years, being between 75 per cent. and 83 per cent. from January to July inclusive. To what extent, if any, such conditions would influence the abundance of cotton pests, or the spread and rapid development of the fungoid and bacterial diseases transmitted by sucking insects, such as stainers, it is scarcely possible to say in the light of our present knowledge, but that stainer damage was more severe in 1936 than in the immediately previous few seasons, which could be characterised as " dry " years, cannot be denied.
>
> *Stainers.*—Of 400 bolls picked at random from various situations in the Lower River districts and examined in August, approximately 30 per cent. could be classified as healthy, 11 per cent. attacked by bollworm, 16 per cent. damaged by causes unknown or unidentifiable, and no less than 42 per cent. severely damaged by stainers.
>
> The problem of cotton stainers and cotton bollworms is so intimately bound up with every aspect of the cultivation of the crop that successful results can only be expected from a whole time study of these insects. In the case of stainers the periodic migration of the adults from their various wild host plants is a subject that has, as yet, only been partially elucidated. This in itself is quite a large subject, depending as it does on the species of stainer concerned and the varying climatic conditions effecting the growth of the various host plants during the year. By means of a questionnaire sent to all Agricultural Officers and Supervisors during the year, it is hoped that a certain amount of information may gradually be obtained as to the annual habits of some of the known local host plants in different types of country and at different elevations.
>
> *Bollworms.*—The control of cotton bollworms is as yet, and in the writer's opinion is likely always to remain so, purely a matter of field husbandry. This implies selecting the most suitable type of seed for the conditions under which the plant will grow, adopting the most

Digitized by Google

desirable planting date to give the plant the best possible conditions during growth and the ruthless destruction of all plants after a certain period so that there is an absolute dead season of at least two months between crop and crop. The mere uprooting of the previous year's cotton bushes when the new crop is already sown and possibly well advanced is quite useless, as a method of pest control.

A difficulty that occurs in an area such as the Lower River districts in regulating an efficient dead season, is that a multiplicity of planting dates are possible owing to the juxtaposition of normal and river-flood lands, making it possible for cotton in all stages of growth to be in existence throughout the whole year. Certain advantages to be obtained from early planting on non-flood lands while harvesting on the flood lands has been prolonged, have between them created a situation in the Lower River district whereby an efficient dead season has been rendered a practical impossibility. A natural, but unfortunate, desire for " record " crops year after year has produced just those conditions which most favour the serious insect pests of cotton.

A determined effort has been made this year (1936-37) to ensure that a dead season of at least six weeks shall be maintained. It is the writer's considered opinion, however, that this period must in future be increased to a full two months and be thoroughly enforced each season, if cotton pest infestation of the Lower River crop is to be kept within reasonable bounds.

In view of the variable planting dates possible, and hitherto adopted, in this valuable and well-established cotton area of the Protectorate, it may become necessary for measures to be taken to prevent the planting of the new crop, each year, before a certain time in addition to the stipulation of the date by which the old crop should be uprooted. These remarks will apply equally well to cotton growing in the lake shore belt of North Nyasa as that area develops.

The most satisfactory period for this dead season in the Lower River districts should, in the writer's opinion, include a portion of the first rains. It is probable that the majority of the bollworm moths hatch with the first showers, particularly the Red Bollworm (*Diparopsis castanea,* Hmps). As this bollworm appears to have extremely few wild host plants (unknown as yet in Nyasaland) the absence of cotton plants on which this first brood of moths could oviposit should offer a considerable check to an early rise in numbers of bollworm and hence the future broods.

A further point in the development of cotton growing in any new areas is that all Kidney-cotton plants must be eradicated, whether the tribes concerned wish to retain them for the use of the lint for certain ceremonial purposes or not. In both the areas visited in the Kota-Kota and Mombera districts, mentioned above, plants of this perennial cotton were found in villages and in one case Red Bollworm was flourishing on it."

Tea.

The tea industry continued to expand towards its limit of 17,700 acres under the restriction scheme. The acreage planted during 1936 was 292 and the total at the end of the year was 16,346 acres of which 8,710 acres were in Mlanje and 7,636 acres in Cholo districts. Production of tea rose from 5,730,704 lb. in 1935 to 8,492,316 lb. in 1936 while exports as already noted, increased by 27·5 per cent. The acreage in plucking was

Digitized by Google

14,385. Final allocations of new acreages for planting were given in 1935 and the industry is now busily engaged in consolidating its position in view of the approach of the end of the present five-year period of restriction in March, 1938.

Investigations were continued during 1936 in the problem of poor fermentation of leaf from certain soils in the high-rainfall belt of Mlanje and it has now been proved that a supply of certain minor elements to tea bushes in this area will temporarily rectify the trouble. A dilute solution of copper sulphate applied as a spray will cause an improvement in leaf plucked from such bushes, the improvement lasting for some months and the quality and value of the made tea being much appreciated.

Experimental work on works for minimizing soil erosion, fertilizing, pruning methods and degrees of plucking has continued and the results of various investigations have been published.

Native Food Crops.

Maize, the staple cereal food of the country, yielded well in Lower River areas, Mlanje and Cholo, although late floods spoilt some maize at Chikwawa and Chiromo. In other areas of the Southern Province, in Dedza, Ncheu and north of Dowa, maize and other food crops were good, notable exceptions being small parts of the South Nyasa and Upper Shire districts where the shortage of early rains almost ruined the food gardens. There was actual famine early in the year along the east side of Lake Nyasa. Maize in dry areas south of the Bua was also adversely affected by the early weather conditions. It is to be noted that in the high rainfall areas the native grown types of maize have suffered less from cob diseases than the small flat white types.

Good crops of pearl millet were harvested in areas of low elevation although fungus disease was apparent at higher elevations.

Groundnuts and beans were in short supply generally owing to the large amount of rosette disease during this and past seasons and the small amounts of available seed.

Root crops such as cassava and sweet potatoes were generally very good.

Crops in most northern areas, particularly North Nyasa, were excellent although the usual local shortage occurred in Mzimba.

Disappointing results are obtained on many soils in the highland areas with the cow pea and dolichos bean in the normal year and it is very apparent that other leguminous crops are urgently required in the permanent agriculture of such areas.

Digitized by Google

Work during the past ten years on the Zomba Experimental Station has shown the great value of the soya bean as a food and rotation crop and it is proposed to continue with extensive propaganda everywhere to popularize this crop by field and cooking demonstrations. Pigeon pea has also been shown to be a valuable rotation and fodder crop but unfortunately it yields very poorly in areas where the winter is characterized by very cold nights.

Issues of good seed of the chief food crops and of seed of improved varieties have been made from all experimental stations, mainly of rice and pearl millet at lower elevations and groundnuts and maize in highland areas.

The campaign conducted by all officers and supervisors of the Agricultural Department in view of the menace of soil erosion has been referred to and the great value of the broad base Mangum ridge terrace has been proved in all districts, particularly those areas where supervision and assistance are given by the Native Tobacco Board and its officers. When an attempt is made adequately to protect a large block of land from abnormal soil erosion the cultivators concerned require very careful supervision in the construction of various works and in contour cropping. Their interest has to be aroused and it is better to prove to them the value of such works by small demonstrations rather than to rush them into an extended scheme where inefficiency in construction at some critical point may destroy their confidence in such improved agricultural methods for years. Careful work with a dumpy level is necessary before efficient terraces can be constructed.

It may however be mentioned in connexion with soil conservation and the possibility of growing food crops for many years, if not indefinitely, on certain soils such as those of the Zomba series, that large blocks of land round the villages of progressive Native Authorities have been adequately protected with various works.

A supplementary campaign for the maintenance of soil organic matter is proceeding satisfactorily but it has been proved on the Zomba Experimental Station that there is no royal road to the manufacture of a satisfactory compost. The lines laid down by Howard for the Indore method must be closely adhered to. The compost to the amount of several hundred tons has proved its value on food and tobacco gardens in Zomba and Lilongwe.

The problems of animal husbandry together with those of the production of better foodstuffs for the native, maintenance of fertility, and the grazing and improvement of stock, are studied in collaboration with the Veterinary Department and the herd on the Zomba Experimental Station has been very useful in this respect.

Digitized by Google

Other Crops.

The reopening of sisal estates in Lower River areas has been referred to.

The European acreage under tung oil increased from 341 acres in 1935 to 624 acres during the 1936 season and at the beginning of the 1937 season a further 300 acres were planted. Most of this acreage was planted in Cholo, Mlanje and Zomba, *Aleurites montana* forming the greater part of the crop in the drier areas.

Work on this variety on the Zomba Experimental Station has now enabled a bulletin to be prepared on all its aspects.

The European coffee acreage continues to shrink. Figures for the past three years are given below.

	Total acreage.	*Production cwt.*	*Amount exported cwt.*
1934	1,188	1,039	366
1935	995	1,605	603
1936	837	533	168

It is apparent that there are few true coffee areas in Nyasaland; the long dry season and attack by white stem borer are limiting factors in the life of the coffee tree in doubtful areas. It may be said that the limit of coffee areas in Nyasaland may be traced on the dry season rainfall map by the 7-inch isohyet.

Parts of the Cholo hills receive more than this rainfall in the average six monthly period May to October inclusive and this is reflected in the superior results obtained by native cultivators in these areas.

Forestry.

State Forests.

No new forest reserves were constituted during 1936. The amended boundaries of the Mua Livulezi reserve were proclaimed, involving a small increase in the area of the reserve. The amendment was made to excise land suitable for agriculture and to include land on the escarpment face.

All reserves were protected and their boundaries maintained. Complete protection from fire was effected in the few reserves under intensive management and in the remainder controlled burning of grass was carried out early in the dry season. As a result of this policy a marked improvement of the growing stocks becomes increasingly evident.

Various areas of forest and woodland were examined in both provinces with a view to their reservation. There was a large increase in the demand for timber of *Widdringtonia whytei* (Mlanje Cypress), the sales to the public increased by 128 per cent. on the volume sold in 1935. The native sawing industry, which had declined considerably during the previous few years,

Digitized by Google

remained fairly steady. Possibilities of further improvement will no doubt depend upon the increase in local prosperity. The chief species used at present are *Khaya nyasica, Pterocarpus angolensis* and, to a lesser extent, *Adina microcephala*. The demand for poles and firewood from reserves situated near the townships was well maintained.

Communal Forests.

Further progress was made in the village forest scheme and 432 new areas were registered and allocated to villages, bringing the total to 3,623 areas with an aggregate area of approximately 179,326 acres. By means of some concentration of staff in the Lilongwe and Dowa districts a comprehensive check was carried out of the village forest areas in those districts, involving redemarcation where necessary and a complete overhaul of the registration forms.

Stream Banks and Hill Slopes.

The Forest (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936, was enacted which, with a corresponding amendment to the Forest Rules, reduced the protected area on river banks from thirty yards to eight yards. As stated in previous reports, relaxation of the original law relating to thirty yards has for some years been necessary in certain areas on account of congestion and Native Authorities were given the power to issue licences for cultivation within the thirty-yard limit but outside an eight-yard limit. In practice this arrangement has not worked very satisfactorily and since the preservation of an eight-yard strip is considered all that is necessary for the protection of the great majority of streams, it is thought that better results will now be obtained by concentrating efforts on the protection of this strip and freeing the remaining twenty-two yards from legal restriction.

Investigations were made concerning hill slope cultivation in the Southern Province as well as recommendations for the evacuation of recently settled population on certain hills and to close to cultivation certain infertile hill country where cultivation would be a source of danger to the fertile plains of the Shire valley. In the Northern Province the prohibition of cultivation on steep hills was extended.

Experiments and Investigations.

Observations and experiments in silviculture were continued with particular regard to natural regeneration, sowing and planting, resistance of species to fire, rate of growth, time and degree of thinnings. In the trials of exotic species special attention was given to various species of pines which have shown promise since inoculation of soils with mycorrhiza was begun. Some of the pine plots established during the past few years are showing promising growth and the more extensive trials of

Digitized by Google

them now being undertaken in a wider range of soils should indicate whether their introduction on a larger scale is justifiable.

The Check List of identified trees and shrubs was published by the Imperial Forestry Institute towards the end of the year after collaboration with the Forestry Department in a final revision. It contains notes on forest types and an index of vernacular names so that it may be of some value to agricultural officers and others interested in the classification of land.

Revisional Training.

The annual courses of instruction for district native foresters were held as usual at Limbe and in the north, each of about two weeks' duration. The work was mainly of a revisional character and included a considerable amount of practical work. Great stress was laid on accuracy, particularly in recording. and on general alertness. Discussion between the foresters themselves was encouraged as much as possible.

General.

A new scheme for regulating the construction of dug-out canoes was agreed to and adopted for the whole Protectorate. It provides a system for periodical stock-taking by species of trees which have reached prescribed dimensions suitable for the manufacture of canoes. The stock-taking is to be carried out by Native Authorities in their sections, assisted by the district forest guards. Annual quotas are thereby fixed for the sections on an accepted formula, until the next stock-taking is made after an interval of five years or less. The main object of the scheme is to encourage the conservation of suitable species, particularly the younger age-classes and to urge the Native Authorities to prevent unnecessary waste of resources by exercising control in the opening up of new land for agriculture. Ancillary to this system of quotas, the general registration and marking of canoes is also being provided for by Native Authorities in their canoe rules, so that control may be as complete as possible.

There was a small increase in imports of unmanufactured timber and a large increase in imports of plywood for tea-chests. Although no timber was exported during the year there was a large increase in the export of both strophanthus and beeswax.

Livestock.

There are signs that the year 1936 was a turning point in the livestock industry. Natives all over the Protectorate began to show interest in their herds and to realize their value, both from the food point of view and for their commercial value. Figures do not indicate startling increases but in several districts where herds have hitherto been allowed to stand idle natives are now asking for help and advice.

Digitized by Google

Demonstrations in animal husbandry, started last year, have produced good results in more than one area and in Lilongwe township clean milk of good quality is sold to Europeans by natives. In the Ncheu area a noticeable improvement has taken place in the stabling of livestock generally and the Native Authorities are asking for further instruction.

In the Mzimba district, where no commercial interest in livestock has ever been evinced, there has been a very welcome change. A European firm started operations for the making of ghee. Although the price offered for milk was of necessity low, after a slow start, no difficulty was experienced in obtaining as much as could be dealt with. It is at present too early to prophesy but the outlook is very promising.

Further north, in the North Nyasa district, there was also a revival in the industry. Considerable numbers of cattle were taken to the Lupa gold fields, Tanganyika Territory, where satisfactory prices were obtained. A good trade was started in hides with Tukuyu, also in Tanganyika Territory. Prices were more than satisfactory and although there are no figures to quote it is reported that several thousands of hides were sold. The natives of North Nyasa district are reported to be more properous than ever before. It is worthy of note that the hides from this district, where a large number of cattle are regularly dipped, are in great demand in neighbouring territories where there are no dipping tanks.

The experiment, made in 1935 by the Turf Club, of importing horses proved very satisfactory. Ponies having proved successful, horses were also imported and the equine population has made a leap forward. Practically all horses are inoculated annually against horse sickness.

Except for an outbreak of Trypanosomiasis (Tsetse-fly disease) in the Blantyre area, which was the cause of some anxiety, no serious outbreak of disease was recorded during the year.

The increase in native livestock during the year was well up to standard but no appreciable increase was reported of European stock.

The following table shows the number of livestock of different classes returned at the end of 1936:—

Livestock.	*European-Owned.*	*Native-Owned.*	*Total.*
Cattle	16,215	206,503	222,718
Sheep	1,175	54,341	55,516
Goats	401	260,363	260,764
Pigs...	901	71,470	72,371
Horses	38	—	38
Donkeys	182	—	182

Minerals.

The following minerals are known to occur in the Protectorate:—Gold, in small amount, in the Lisungwe Valley, Blantyre District; bauxite, in the Mlanje Mountains; iron-ores, ilmenite and rutile in the Port Herald hills; corundum and zircon at

Digitized by Google

Tambani Hill, Central Shire District; asbestos in Ncheu District; iron-manganese ores on Chilwa Island; graphite and mica in Dowa and Ncheu Districts; galena in Dowa District; coal in Lower Shire and North Nyasa Districts and cement materials at Lake Malombe and in North Nyasa District. Mica and graphite were worked during the European War and shortly afterwards, and gold is worked from time to time on a small scale.

With the aid of grants from the Colonial Development Fund an investigation of the mineral resources of the country is in progress. During the year the staff examined parts of Cholo and Central Shire Districts and the mica and apatite deposits of Ncheu and South Nyasa districts. A new occurrence of gold was observed in the eastern part of South Nyasa and this is still being investigated.

Water Supply.

The activities of the Geological Survey Department were devoted in part during 1936 to the continued improvement and extension of village water supplies with aid of grants from the Colonial Development Fund.

By the end of 1935, 256 wells and bore-holes had been constructed, giving a minimum daily yield of 1,311,620 gallons and serving a population of at least 60,700 natives and non-natives. By their construction about 481 square miles of unoccupied or sparsely populated country have been opened up for further settlement. During 1936 an additional 70 wells and bore-holes were constructed, with a corresponding increase in the area of land opened up.

These water supply activities, which it is proposed to continue until 1940, have been carried out mainly in the country served by the Railway and the Railway Northern Extension to Lake Nyasa. They have greatly stimulated agricultural production in the areas served and have thereby provided freights for the Railway and assisted in the economic development of the country. Moreover, by providing new land for native settlement they have relieved the congestion in a number of overcrowded areas. Many wells and bore-holes have been provided also for native hospitals, dispensaries, markets and rest-houses.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Nyasaland being within the region covered by the Congo Basin Treaties, 1885, and the Convention of St. Germain-en-Laye, 1919, may not grant preferential rates of duty. Accordingly its customs tariff applies equally to imports from all nations.

Digitized by Google

Progress in native agriculture, the expansion of tea-growing areas and the re-opening of sisal plantations were the main causes of the improved trading conditions enjoyed by the Protectorate as a whole, European-grown tobacco with an increased output also contributed, but to a less extent. The larger sum disbursed in the purchase of tobacco more than offset the loss sustained owing to a deficiency in the cotton crop. Tobacco production improved over last year by nearly 32 per cent. but cotton declined by 35 per cent. On balance it is estimated that the spending power of native producers of these crops was increased by some £2,000, whilst that of European growers improved materially.

There were increased imports of luxury goods both for European and native consumption and still greater imports of a capital nature.

Although imports of cotton manufactures, mainly for native consumption, fell short of the quantities imported during the preceding year, bazaar sales exceeded those of 1935. This anomaly is explained by the fact that the carry over from 1935 was considerably in excess of the stocks remaining in hand at the end of this year. Stocks of piece goods are less owing to manufacturers' prices, both British and Japanese, but more especially Japanese, being higher. Prices began steadily to rise in July and in November they took a sudden jump. In the anticipation that costs will shortly return to the lower levels of six months ago merchants are indenting only on a hand to mouth basis. Japanese manufacturers continue to dominate the market.

After satisfying the sartorial and other urgent requirements of his family and himself the native turns his thoughts to a bicycle. Imports of bicycles at 3,233 show the amazing increase of 134·4 per cent. over those of 1935 which, again, were better than the 1934 imports by 46·3 per cent. If to the number of complete bicycles are added 400 sets of component parts, imported from different countries for assembly in the Protectorate and which for statistical purposes are allocated to "Vehicle parts," a still better idea may be obtained of the growing popularity of this means of transport and of the increasing wealth of the native. Although a foreign bicycle may be purchased locally for £2 less than the price asked for the British article the latter is in greater demand. The native realizes that the article of better quality is less expensive in the long run. Hence the high British percentage of 95·3 to the total imported. The remaining 4·7 per cent. (150 bicycles) originated in Japan.

The incidence of the import trade for the year 1936 is as follows:—Europeans: 64 per cent., Asiatic: 5 per cent. and Native: 31 per cent. For the preceding year the percentages were European: 53·37, Asiatic: 6·44 and Native: 40·19.

Digitized by Google

The volume of trade, which comprises domestic imports and exports and goods carried in transit but does not include Government imports or specie, amounted to £1,524,595. This sum exceeds the 1935 total by £97,283 or 6·8 per cent. The domestic trade value improved by £95,770 or 7 per cent. and the transit trade by £1,513 or 2·1 per cent. Adding the value of Government imports and specie the total for the year is £1,684,369 as compared with last year's total of £1,497,609.

Under their respective headings the items which comprise the trade volume are given below in comparison with those of the previous year:—

	1936.	*1935.*	*Increase.*		*Decrease.*	
	£	£	£	*Percentage.*	£	*Percentage.*
Imports ...	645,900	601,390	44,510	(7·4)		
Exports ...	806,084	754,824	51,260	(6·8)		
Transit inwards	46,689	38,545	8,144	(21·1)		
Transit outwards	25,922	32,553			6,631	(20·3)
	£1,524,595	£1,427,312	£103,914		£6,631	

The balance of trade favours exports in each year by £160,184 and £153,434 respectively.

A statement of domestic trade (excluding Government imports and movement of specie) for the last three years, showing imports and exports separately, is given hereunder:—

Year.	*Imports.* *Value.*	*Exports.* *Value.*	*Exports.* *Quantity.*
	£	£	lb.
1934	485,306	771,990	23,496,468
1935	601,390	754,824	30,413,422
1936	645,900	806,084	33,807,954

Imports and Exports.

The total values of the domestic import and export trade, respectively, for the years given were:—

	Imports.	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*
	£	£	£
1934	519,544	787,229	1,306,773
1935	656,745	769,766	1,426,511
1936	794,089	817,669	1,611,758

The total values of imports of merchandise, Government stores, bullion and specie into Nyasaland for the three years given were:—

	Trade Goods.	*Government Stores.*	*Bullion and Specie.*	*Imported Goods Re-exported.*
	£	£	£	£
1934	485,306	32,840	1,398	18,621
1935	601,390	27,109	28,246	18,512
1936	645,900	27,628	120,561	9,457

Digitized by Google

PRINCIPAL TRADE IMPORTS (EXCLUDING GOVERNMENT IMPORTS) FOR HOME CONSUMPTION FOR THE YEARS 1934–1936.

Articles.		*1934.*		*1935.*		*1936.*	
		Quantity.	£	*Quantity.*	£	*Quantity.*	£
Agricultural machinery and implements.	Tons	222	6,021	285	7,846	439	10,343
Blankets	No.	53,211	4,287	78,103	6,366	120,628	10,419
Cotton piece goods	Linear yd.	9,166,585	123,647	13,338,228	168,735	10,663,503	141,552
Electrical and industrial machinery	Tons	384	26,743	764	46,472	588	46,021
Iron, steel and metal manufactures	Tons	1,049	25,584	3,879	33,244	2,381	41,527
Linen, hemp and jute manufactures	Cwt.	2,907	5,686	6,505	12,351	5,887	9,554
Motor cars	No.	70	10,875	86	13,460	83	13,255
Motor lorries and tractors	No.	32	4,555	54	8,747	83	15,779
Motor spirits	Gal.	364,669	26,143	383,084	29,037	419,683	31,757
Provisions, various	Cwt.	3,408	12,028	3,429	11,384	3,879	13,072
Salt	Tons	2,533	6,150	3,247	7,123	2,991	6,897
Shirts and singlets	Doz.	14,686	6,197	24,619	8,369	29,912	10,684
Spirits	Pf. and imp. gal.	6,211	9,359	6,133	9,430	6,500	10,010
Sugar	Cwt.	10,249	4,645	11,264	4,936	14,206	6,104

The total values of merchandise, bullion and specie exported during the period were :—

	Merchandise.	*Bullion.*	*Specie.*
	£	£	£
1934	771,635	356	15,238
1935	754,282	542	14,942
1936	805,957	127	11,585

Digitized by Google

Direction of Import Trade.

Trade with the United Kingdom reflects a slight upward trend, the value percentage of trade imports to the total being 45·2 as against 43·2 in the previous year.

Trade with the rest of the Empire also has increased from 5·9 per cent. in 1935 to 7·2 per cent. making a total Empire improvement of 3·3 per cent. This improvement is mainly at the expense of Japan, the percentage from which country declined by 4·3 when compared with the previous year's incidence. Trade with foreign countries generally, fell from 50·9 per cent. to 47·6 per cent.

The following statement indicates the percentages and nature of the Protectorate's direct trade, for the first two years with the countries from which imports were consigned and thereafter with the countries of origin:—

Countries and principal items imported.	*Percentage to total of imports.*				
	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
United Kingdom ... ... Provisions (tinned), beer and ale, cheese and fats, spirits, wines, cigarettes, tea chests, earthenware, glassware, sheet glass, cement, galvanised iron, hollow-ware, nails, screws and rivets, iron and steel, aluminium ware, axes and spades, cutlery, hardware, hose, tools, electrical goods, agricultural and other machinery, sewing machines, typewriters, weighing machines, cotton piece goods, handkerchiefs, carpets and rugs, hessian and sacks, boots and shoes, drugs, soap, lubricating oils, stationery, cycles, motor cycles, motors and lorries, fertilizers, musical instruments, tyres, and tubes.	54·4	53·4	46·4	43·2	45·2
India ... ... Rice, ghee, provisions, seeds, cotton blankets, cotton piece and other cotton goods, sacks and hessian, textiles, boots and shoes, candles, and leather manufactures.	7·5	3·1	1·7	1·5	1·6
Canada ... ... Motor vehicles.	—	—	1·8	1·1	1·3

Digitized by Google

Countries and principal items imported.	*Percentage to total of imports.*				
	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
South Africa ... ... Flour, syrups, fruits, jams, cigarettes, tobacco, electrical goods, stationery, motor cars, lorries, and fertilizers.	2·3	2·0	1·8	1·8	1·9
Southern Rhodesia ... ... Hams and bacon, cheese, coal, electrical goods, and apparel.	1·9	2·0	1·5	1·1	1·5
Other British Possessions ... Flour, salt, and oil.	2·4	1·7	0·8	0·4	0·9
Total British Empire ...	68·5	62·2	54·0	49·1	52·4
Portuguese East Africa ... Salt, sugar, and coal.	15·4	16·0	3·7	2·9	3·2
Germany ... ... Beer and ale, hollow-ware, aluminium ware, axes, cutlery, sewing machines, cotton blankets, cotton piece goods, textiles, boots and shoes, haberdashery, candles, soap, bicycles, beads, fertilizers, and lanterns.	3·4	2·7	1·8	2·2	3·0
United States of America ... Provisions (tinned), agricultural implements, electrical and industrial machinery, typewriters, cotton piece goods, motor cars and lorries.	1·4	0·7	3·6	4·4	5·3
Japan ... ... Hollow-ware, cotton piece goods, silk, textiles, shirts and singlets.	6·9	12·9	23·8	29·4	25·1
Holland ... ... Beer and ale, cheese, hollow-ware, cotton blankets, cotton piece goods, and beads.	1·5	1·3	1·6	0·6	1·4
Italy ... ... Wines, textiles, haberdashery, motor cars and lorries, and beads.	1·1	1·5	1·5	1·4	0·5
Iran ... ... Motor spirit and oils.	—	—	2·8	2·5	2·5
Dutch East Indies ... ... Motor spirit and oils	—	—	2·2	2·4	2·2
Other Foreign Countries ... Wines, spirits, cement, rails, rolling stock, cotton goods, and matches.	1·8	2·7	5·0	5·1	4·4
Total Foreign Countries ...	31·5	37·8	46·0	50·9	47·6

Digitized by Google

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS FOR THE YEARS 1934-6.

	1934.		*1935.*		*1936.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	lb.	£	*lb.*	£	*lb.*	£
Coffee ...	41,039	688	67,601	1,127	37,700	628
Cotton ...	4,147,240	102,876	8,194,036	204,851	5,320,279	133,007
Cotton Seed	6,720	6	2,650,357	2,366	3,760,328	3,357
Tea ...	4,624,111	171,470	6,042,532	223,876	7,706,088	256,870
Tobacco ...	12,544,126	470,405	10,168,641	296,932	13,391,541	390,587

Tobacco.—With a shipment weight of 5,978½ long tons, exports of tobacco improved by 1,439 tons, or 31·69 per cent., when compared with the previous year's output.

Europeans produced approximately 19 per cent. and natives on trust lands and private estates, under European supervision, 81 per cent. Practically all was disposed of in local markets prior to shipment.

Tobacco weighing 190,572 lb. was consigned to Sierra Leone, 51,480 lb. to the Dutch East Indies, 19,809 lb. to Egypt and smaller quantities to Tanganyika Territory and Gambia. The remainder of the crop, 13,110,121 lb., was despatched to the United Kingdom.

Cotton.—Climatic conditions badly affected the crop with the result that instead of an increase over the previous year's record harvest anticipated early in the season the export weight, 5,320,279 lb., fell short by 2,873,757 lb. of the 1935 figure. 8,786½ bales, 66 per cent., were shipped to the United Kingdom, 1,627 bales to Germany, 467 to India, 334 to Belgium and smaller quantities to Danzig, Poland, France and Holland. 1,521 bales are awaiting re-consignment at Beira.

Tea.—With a net weight of 3,440·2 tons (7,706,088 lb.) exports improved by 742·6 tons, equal to 27·5 per cent., when compared with similar exports of a year ago.

Over 7½ million lb. were consigned to the United Kingdom, 87,660 lb. to Southern Rhodesia, 19,552 lb. to Italy and smaller quantities to Portuguese East Africa, Northern Rhodesia, Tripoli and South Africa.

Sisal.—Shipments this year weighed 936,969 lb. (418·3 tons) as compared with 355 lb. exported during the previous year. Except for 2,928 lb. consigned to Southern Rhodesia the whole of the crop was despatched to the United Kingdom.

Domestic Exports in general weighed 33,807,954 lb. (15,093 tons) and were valued at £806,084, as compared with 30,413,422 lb. (13,577 tons), valued at £754,824, shipped during the

Digitized by Google

previous year. Increases are thus shown of 1,516 tons (11·16 per cent.) and £51,260 (6·8 per cent.). Excluding re-exports weighing 127 tons and valued at £9,457 the resulting figures representing the actual products of the Protectorate are 14,966 tons, valued at £796,627. Compared with the produce exports of 1935 respective increases of 2,487 tons (19·9 per cent.), valued at £60,315 (8·2 per cent.) are recorded.

Direction of Export Trade.

Domestic produce consigned to the United Kingdom weighed 30,950,633 lb. (13,817 tons) equal to 92·3 per cent. of the whole and were valued at £736,080, equal to 92·4 per cent. of the total value, as compared with the 1935 shipments weighing 24,833,452 lb. (11,086 tons), representing 88·8 per cent., valued at £669,355, equal to 90·9 per cent.

Shipments to other parts of the Empire, mainly to Sierra Leone, India and Southern Rhodesia, weighed 275 tons (1·8 per cent.) and were valued at £16,015 (2 per cent.), as against the previous year's shipments weighing 721 tons (5·8 per cent.) valued at £33,476 (4·5 per cent.).

Foreign countries, chiefly Germany and Belgium, if exports on consignment momentarily allocated to Portuguese East Africa are excluded, absorbed the balance of 874 tons (5·9 per cent.) valued at £44,532 (5·6 per cent.). In 1935 foreign consignments weighed 672 tons (5·4 per cent.) and were valued at £33,481 (4·5 per cent.).

Transit Trade.

Goods passing in transit to and from adjacent territories were valued at £72,611 in comparison with £71,098 entered last year, an increase of £1,513 or 2·1 per cent. Transit imports which consist of merchandise consigned to contiguous territories were valued at £46,689 and show an increase of 21·1 per cent. when compared with last year's figures. Transit exports, consisting of produce emanating from contiguous territories, decreased in value by £6,631 or 20·3 per cent.

Customs Legislation.

The customs tariff was amended in April to provide for the free import of crude oil for Diesel lorries used on private estates, to reduce the maximum import duty on motor cars from £2 15s. od. per h.p. to £2 5s. od. per h.p. and to permit the free entry of cinema films and lantern slides of an educational character. Further amendments in October provided for the admission free of duty of blasting materials imported by holders of prospecting or mining licences, chemicals used in the preparation of tobacco for the West African markets and stores and

Digitized by Google

materials imported by the Railway Company for the construction, equipment and maintenance of the railway and marine services. Import values are entered on a C.I.F. Beira or Quelimane basis. There is a specific list containing 33 items, four tables providing for the levy of import duties at from 3 per cent. to 33 per cent. *ad valorem*, a list of goods which may be admitted free of all dues and a general tariff of 20 per cent. *ad valorem* on imports not otherwise classified.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

European.

Nyasaland has recovered to some extent from its impoverished condition of the last few years and the recovery is reflected in a slight improvement in employment. The supply of candidates for unskilled occupations still, however, exceeds the demand and the urgent necessity remains for the restriction of European immigration to exclude persons who wish to enter the country in search of employment, and even to those who might reasonably expect to obtain it while the balance of unattached labour available in the Protectorate remains unabsorbed. The expansion of certain Government departments has enabled a number of Europeans to obtain employment who would otherwise have found difficulty in doing so.

There is little variation in prices of commodities imported and of local origin. Imported articles are costly owing to freight and customs charges but local produce is cheap and is of sufficient variety and quality to supply most of the essential requirements of an European household in the way of foodstuffs. A bachelor may live in reasonable comfort on £15 to £20 a month and a married couple on £25.

Native.

Rates of pay for unskilled labour vary from 6s. to 8s. a month in the Northern Province and from 6s. to 10s. in the Southern Province. Housing, firewood and food or food allowance at the option of the employees are provided in addition. Drugs for the treatment of the more common complaints are stocked for free issue by employers and free treatment is given in Government dispensaries; more serious cases of illness are sent to the nearest hospital, usually at the expense of the employer. The average day's work for unskilled labour varies from four to eight hours and is dependent on whether it is task or time work and on the energy of the worker himself.

Skilled labour is paid according to qualifications and efficiency at rates varying from 15s. to 120s. a month.

Digitized by Google

The rates of pay of the Native Civil Service, which includes artisans as well as clerks and which may be said to be similar to those paid by commercial firms, are as follows:—

Grade III.—£27 per annum by increments not exceeding £2 per annum.

Grade II.—£30 to £45 per annum by increments not exceeding £3 per annum.

Grade I.—£50 to £200 per annum by increments varying from £4 to £12 10s.

The wages paid to domestic servants range from 6s. a month for a pantry or kitchen boy to 30s. a month for a cook, plus food allowance.

The vast extremes in their mode of life render it impossible for any accurate statement to be made as to the cost of living of the native population, although it may be said that it varies according to the income of the individual who as a general rule lives to the full extent of his resources.

The staple food is a kind of porridge made from maize flour or cassava which is supplemented by fish and other relishes according to the means and taste of the individual. Villagers can live almost entirely on the produce of their gardens at very little expense, while those in townships can feed themselves at a cost of from 3d. to 1s. 6d. per diem according to the standard which they maintain.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The European staff of the Education Department consists of a Director and a clerk at headquarters, two Superintendents of Education who are largely employed in inspection work and a staff of five at the Jeanes Training Centre. The African staff consists of four clerks and five teachers.

European Education.

The European population of Nyasaland is approximately 1,800 and is centred chiefly round the townships of Blantyre, Limbe and Zomba and in the Cholo and Mlanje districts in the Southern Province, and in the Lilongwe district in the Northern Province. There are four primary schools for European children of which two are conducted by Missions and have boarding accommodation. They are situated at Limbe and Mkhoma. In Blantyre and Zomba there are day schools conducted by private individuals. The schools are assisted by grants from Government and are inspected by officers of the Education and Medical Departments. Education is not free but the Government grant to the schools amounts to nearly 50 per

Digitized by Google

cent. of their revenue. If parents cannot afford to pay the fees these are remitted by Government and additional grants are paid to the school. Boarding fees may be remitted as well as tuition fees.

These schools are intended only for children between the ages of 5 and 11. It is highly desirable, for climatic and cultural reasons, that children should not stay in the Protectorate beyond the age of 11. As an increasing proportion of Nyasaland children go to schools in Southern Rhodesia, the curriculum in the Nyasaland schools is based on that of the Southern Rhodesian Education Department. It is hoped that in 1937 and subsequent years an inspector of that department will visit the Nyasaland schools annually to act as a liaison officer and to ensure similarity of standard.

Under a Government bursary scheme parents are assisted, when necessary, in sending children over the age of 11 years to schools in Southern Rhodesia. The bursaries vary in amount according to the need of the individual and may be as high as three-quarters of the total cost of the child's education. Bursaries are normally renewed annually until the child has reached the age of 16. In 1936 bursaries were given amounting to a total of £798.

The Government of Southern Rhodesia generously treats children from Nyasaland on an equal basis with its own children and charges only for board and not for tuition.

During the year there was published the report of the Education Commissioner appointed in 1935 " to enquire into and report upon the present system of European Education on all its bearings in the Colony of Southern Rhodesia." Of particular interest are the recommendations which it contains for (*a*) the establishment of middle schools with a rural bias and (*b*) improving facilities for vocational training. The Government of Southern Rhodesia has not yet made known all its intentions in the matter but it has promised that it will make available for Nyasaland children, *pari passu* with its own, any additional facilities which may be provided. Nyasaland is fortunate in having as neighbour a state which has already done much and is prepared to do more to assist it in the education of its European children.

A few statistics relating to the schools in Nyasaland and to expenditure on European education are appended.

Digitized by Google

Management.	Number of schools.	Enrolment of pupils.			Average attendance.	Number of Teachers.	Scale of Fees (tuition only per annum).	Expenditure from management funds (including fees) estimated.	Expenditure by Government.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.					Grants.	Administration.	Bursaries to Southern Rhodesia.	Total.
a. Mission ...	2	38	48	86	60	7	£5 in Kindergarten to £12 12s. in Standards.	£1,600	£783	£157	£798	£1,738
b. Private ...	2											

Digitized by Google

African Education.

With the exception of the Government Jeanes Training Centre all schools for Africans in the Protectorate are managed by the Missions. The work of the Education Department is to advise and co-ordinate. Grants are paid to approved mission schools: in 1936 the total paid to the Missions in grants was £10,999 10s. 6d.

As forecast in the Report for 1935 it has been possible during 1936 to extend the scope of the Jeanes Training Centre. From its foundation in 1928 the Centre has been training selected mission teachers and their wives as supervisors of village schools and as community workers. In 1934 an experiment was made by adding a course of four months for six native chiefs and their wives, with the idea of instilling in them a sense of responsibility for, and encouraging a more personal interest in, the social and economic welfare of their people. The course was such a success that it was decided to continue it annually. This chiefs' course has lead on to another for training men and their wives to assist the chiefs in general community work. Since its formation the Centre has been liberally assisted by the Carnegie Corporation which from 1928 to 1935 granted £1,000 a year towards its upkeep. In November, 1935, the grant was doubled and guaranteed for a period of three years to make the new courses possible.

The Report for 1935 indicated that the experiment had been made, at the express desire of a native chief and his people, of introducing compulsory education in a small area in the north of the Protectorate. The experiment shows promise of success and has acted as an incentive to other chiefs, improved school attendances being reported from a number of districts. There is still much to be accomplished before the village schools become the centre of social and economic development in the rural communities, but much has been done by enlisting the active support of the chiefs.

The question of secondary education becomes more acute. There are as yet no secondary schools in the Protectorate and the Advisory Committee on Education, a body fully representative of the Missions and Government, has again reviewed the possibility of establishing one or two secondary schools. Finance is at present the difficulty. The appointment of a Commission to meet in Uganda early in 1937 to review the future of secondary and university education in the East African Colonies should be of inestimable value in assisting the formation of a policy in which Nyasaland can co-operate.

Statistics relating to pupils, schools and expenditure on African education are appended.

Digitized by Google

NATIVE EDUCATION (PRIMARY AND VOCATIONAL).

Management.	Primary Schools.			Vocational Schools.			Number of European Teachers.	Scale of Fees per annum.	Mission Expenditure.	Government Expenditure.		
	Number of Schools.	Enrolment.		Number of Schools.	Enrolment.					Grants.	Administration and Government Schools.	Total.
		Boys.	Girls.		Boys.	Girls.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
a. Government	—	—	—	1*	24	24	4	—	—	—	—	—
b. Mission	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church of Scotland Mission, Livingstonia.	352	15,581	7,482	7	155	10	13	6d. to 50s.	4,370 4 3	1,744 1 6	—	—
Church of Scotland Mission, Blantyre.	269	10,071	4,241	5	57	55	12	3d. to £3	6,731 14 6	1,206 13 0	—	—
Universities Mission to Central Africa.	128	3,998	2,594	3	8	56	10	6d. to £1	2,960 2 7	869 5 8	—	—
Montfort Marist Mission ...	1,016	23,190	18,582	3	167	212	49	Nil	7,701 5 10	2,039 15 6	—	—
Dutch Reformed Church Mission.	910	22,197	22,111	9	60	173	20	3d. to 6s.	10,937 15 3	1,545 13 0	—	—
South East African Mission of 7th Day Adventists.	151	6,302	2,378	3	125	88	15	3d. to 8s.	10,997 0 0	1,063 7 10	6,390 0 4	17,389 10 10
White Fathers Mission ...	782	18,935	18,194	8	174	162	21	No regular fees.	6,340 19 8	1,124 1 0	—	—
Nyasa Mission	104	3,262	1,313	1	37	—	1	—	1,470 0 4	486 2 6	—	—
Zambezi Industrial Mission	108	3,205	2,272	1	32	—	8	6d. to 2s.	1,074 15 0	414 9 0	—	—
Providence Industrial Mission.	4	171	69	—	—	—	—	2s. to £3	228 4 0	10 0 0	—	—
South African General Mission.	98	2,602	1,740	1	—	34	4	1d. to 2s. 6d.	949 4 0	—	—	—
Churches of Christ Mission	41	1,042	843	2	20	30	2	1d. to 6s.	753 15 0	418 16 6	—	—
African Methodist Episcopal Church.	2	80	51	—	—	—	—	—	24 12 0	16 10 0	—	—
African Church of Christ...	1	86	49	—	—	—	—	—	64 9 0	17 5 0	—	—
African Presbyterian Church.	7	337	161	—	—	—	—	—	17 16 0	6 0 0	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37 10 0	—	—
Total	3,973	111,059	82,080	44	859	844	159		54,621 17 5	10,999 10 6	6,390 0 4	17,389 10 10

* Jeanes Training Centre.

Digitized by Google

Indian Education.

The Asiatic population of the Protectorate includes some 120 children of school age. Many missions have admitted in the past, and still do admit, Indian and half-caste children into African schools but from time to time in the Blantyre-Limbe and Zomba areas sections of the Indian community have started schools. The Government has been prepared to assist Indian schools financially as soon as it has been established that the community supports them. Grants have been paid for two or three years but no school has survived for long.

Late in 1935 a school for Indian and half-caste children was established in Limbe by the wife of an Indian medical practitioner. She is a trained teacher. The school has been efficiently conducted throughout the year and has been given financial assistance by Government.

The Indian Community in Zomba re-opened its school late in 1936: it will receive financial assistance from Government in 1937 if properly conducted.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

Except for the steamers of the British India Line which maintain a regular mail service there are no fixed sailing dates from Beira to England, although the intermediate vessels of the Union Castle Mail Steamship Company call frequently at this port. The sea voyage from England to Beira takes about thirty days by steamers of these lines and from five to six weeks by other vessels.

Prior to the opening of the Trans-Zambezia Railway in 1922 the main means of communication with the sea was by the Shire and Zambezi Rivers to Chinde, but since then river transport has declined and is now confined to a small traffic, mainly in sugar and salt, between Zambezi ports and Port Herald on the Shire. Water transport is now therefore mainly confined to Lake Nyasa and this may be expected to become of increasing importance with the extension of the railway to the Lake.

For many years the Government Marine Transport Department operated a monthly sailing of the s.s. *Guendolen* from Fort Johnston, carrying goods and passengers to various ports on the Lake, the round trip taking fifteen days. Calls were made at a number of small ports the principal being Domira Bay, Kota-Kota, Nkata Bay, Florence Bay, Karonga and Mwaya, the last-named being in Tanganyika. There are also two vessels belonging to the Universities Mission to Central Africa on the Lake and one privately-owned steamer.

Digitized by Google

In 1936 the Nyasaland Railways took over the existing lake service from Government and inaugurated an auxiliary service for which purpose a new motor-driven vessel, the M.V. *Mpasa,* was put into service on the Lake. This vessel was transported to the lake shore in sections where it was erected and successfully launched on the 20th of December, 1935. The deadweight cargo capacity is 250 tons and accommodation for four European passengers is provided.

Railways.

Communication with the sea is effected by the Nyasaland Railways and the Central Africa Railway running to the north bank of the Zambezi River and the Trans-Zambezia Railway which runs from the south bank to Beira. The river termini of these railways were situated at Chindio and Murraça respectively and were connected between these two points by a steamer ferry. The difficulties and delays in transhipping heavy goods traffic by means of this ferry service were enormous and in 1930 the project of providing a bridge over the Zambezi River between Sena on the south and Dona Anna on the north bank, about 26 miles upstream from Murraça, was put into effect. Rapid progress was made and on the 1st of March, 1935, the first passenger and mail trains crossed the Zambezi Bridge, thus establishing through communication between Nyasaland and the port of Beira and completing the project of giving Nyasaland reliable and unbroken access to the seaboard. The bridge has a total length of 12,064 feet or 2·285 miles and approximately 17,000 tons of steelwork were used in its construction. It is the longest railway bridge in the world.

In 1934 an extension of the Nyasaland Railways from Blantyre to Salima, a distance of 160 miles, was opened for traffic.

Nyasaland now possesses an unbroken transportation system extending from her most northerly boundary to the final outlet at Beira, the third most important port in the South African sub-continent.

Of the Nyasaland Railways and Central Africa Railway, 289 miles lie within the Protectorate and 24 miles in Portuguese Territory, while the Trans-Zambezi Railway, 182 miles, lies wholly in Portuguese Territory. All these railways are 3 feet 6 inch gauge and are fully equipped for the conveyance of goods and passengers. They are under one combined management locally and share a common office and management in London.

Nyasaland Railways, Ltd., was registered in October, 1930, to acquire the debenture stock and shares of the Shire Highlands Railway, Nyasaland, Ltd., which had previously owned and operated the line between Blantyre and Port Herald and the greater part of the issued share capital of the Central Africa Railway Co., Ltd., which owns the line from Port Herald to Dona Anna on the north bank of the river. The Trans-Zambezia Railway Co., Ltd., was registered in 1919 to construct

Digitized by Google

and work in the territory of, and under concession from, the Companhia de Mocambique 156 miles of railway from Murraça (since extended to Sena, a further 25 miles) on the southern bank of the Zambezi River to Dondo on the Beira Junction Railway, 18 miles from Beira, the Company to have running rights over these 18 miles of Beira line with terminal and other facilities.

Roads.

The following table gives the mileage of public roads in each class:—

	Aggregate Length. *Miles.*
Class I.—Paved surface.	
(*a*) Full width	4
(*b*) Tracks or strips	2
Class II.—Improved surface.	
(*a*) Water-bound macadam ... ... }	90
(*b*) Gravel, laterite, etc.... ... ... }	
Class III.—Natural surface.	
(*a*) All-weather	855
(*b*) Seasonal	2,468
Total	3,419

Included in the seasonal category are 514 miles of district roads usable by light vehicles only.

The maximum gross weight of vehicles permitted on public roads is restricted as follows:—

Class I and II.—Eight tons throughout the year.

Class III (*a*).—Five tons June to November inclusive. Two tons December to May inclusive.

Class III (*b*).—On roads suitable for light lorries two tons throughout the year.

Under special conditions vehicles up to five tons gross weight are permitted to use roads in Class III (*a*) throughout the year.

The road system serves all areas of production not directly served by rail or lake steamer and gives access by motor-car (but in a few cases in the dry season only) to all administrative stations.

Connection with the road systems of neighbouring territories is made as follows:—

With Northern Rhodesia, Tanganyika and the North, between Fort Hill and Tunduma, near the northern border.

With Northern Rhodesia (Fort Jameson—Lusaka Road) between Fort Manning and Fort Jameson on the western border.

With Portuguese East Africa near Mlanje on the eastern border.

With Portuguese East Africa and Southern Rhodesia (Blantyre—Tete—Salisbury Road) near Mwanza on the south-western border.

Digitized by Google

The route traversing Nyasaland is the shortest between South Africa and Kenya and is used increasingly by travellers on business or pleasure. It was brought into some prominence by being used in 1936 for the road race from Nairobi to Johannesburg.

The condition of the roads is generally recognized as comparing favourably with that of roads elsewhere in Africa.

Air.

No large increases in air traffic to and from Nyasaland are to be recorded for the year 1936. The present twice-weekly services to and from Salisbury and Beira would appear therefore to satisfy fully all the needs of Nyasaland in this respect at the present stage of the country's development.

The use of aircraft within the borders of the Protectorate increased considerably during the year under review due to the greater use of aircraft for Government purposes and to the flying of the training machine of the Nyasaland Aero Club. This club was particularly active in its training programme during 1936. Realizing the need for pilots for use in defence it embarked on a scheme of training which included an offer of free tuition in flying, elementary ground engineering and navigation for six young men.

In all five pilots were trained to " A " licence standard and two others had reached the solo stage of flying before the end of the year. This represents a considerable effort on the part of the club and its members as all services in connexion with flying instruction and maintenance are given quite voluntarily and no paid staff of any description is employed.

The excellent condition in which the aerodromes and landing grounds have been maintained by the responsible officers and their comparatively large number, have made Nyasaland one of the safest countries in Africa for pilots and aircraft.

Motor Transport.

The following table gives statistics of the motor transport in use in Nyasaland during the past ten years.

Type of Vehicle.	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Cars and lorries	765	1,044	1,096	1,267	1,255	1,315	1,263	1,217	1,286	1,331
Trailers ...	82	105	96	104	102	103	97	106	93	90
Motor bicycles and side-cars.	1,052	1,139	1,187	1,211	866	908	783	700	630	561
Percentage increase.	29·2	20·6	4·1	11·85	—	4·63	—	—	—	—
Percentage decrease.	—	—	—	—	14·17	—	7·88	5·59	0·69	1·36

Digitized by Google

Of the 1,892 motor vehicles in Nyasaland 1,472 are owned by Europeans, 240 by Asiatics and 180 by Africans. These figures represent a ratio of one vehicle to 1·2, 6·5 and 8,997·4 of the European, Asiatic and African populations, respectively, or one to 857·8 of the total population.

The saloon car with fixed head is the most popular model for private use but box body vehicles of the Ford V 8 and Chevrolet 6 type are also very popular with residents living in out districts who frequently use their cars for carrying parcels, stores, etc.

Transporters appear to favour the fast light lorry of the 40-60 cwt. pay-load capacity. At present there are only seven heavy fuel lorries in the Protectorate and most of these are recent importations.

The number of motor cycles is decreasing each year. This is not because these machines are not suitable for the country but because of the increasing use which is made of the popular light cars which afford protection from sun and rain. Ninety-seven per cent. of the native-owned motor vehicles are second-hand motor cycles.

Postal.

There are forty-four post offices in the Protectorate and one office which transacts telegraph business only. These offices are spread throughout the whole country from Karonga in the north, approximately 18 miles from the Tanganyika border, to Port Herald in the south, 16 miles from the Portuguese border and are connected by mail services varying in frequency from once daily to once weekly.

The post office at Domira Bay was closed on the 17th of May. It became necessary to abandon the office in consequence of the rise of the lake level. Postal and telegraph business was transferred to Salima.

Mails are forwarded by rail, motor lorry, lake steamer and mail carrier as well as by air.

The motor mail service has been still further extended, and Karonga, the most northerly post office, has now been brought to within 31 days of London. The mail for the most northerly offices is conveyed from the railhead at Salima to Mzimba by lorry and beyond that point is forwarded by mail carriers. Mails for Ncheu, Mlangeni, Dedza and Mkhoma are off-loaded at Balaka station and conveyed to their destination by motor lorry. Those for other northern offices are conveyed from Blantyre to Salima by rail and thence to Dowa and Lilongwe by motor lorry. A further motor service operates to the border station of Fort Manning and continues thence to Fort Jameson in Northern Rhodesia.

Digitized by Google

The mail carrier services are maintained during all weathers and the results speak well for this type of service, considering the adverse conditions which are met with especially during the wet season. A new type of single-barrel shotgun has been issued to the carriers on several routes. This replaces the old type of Martini-Henry rifle which has hitherto been their means of protection against wild animals. An overnight service operating for six nights a week maintains communication between Blantyre, Limbe and Zomba, a distance of 42 miles. Two relays of men are employed on the journey and, leaving each end at 3.30 p.m., they deliver the mail at its destination at 7.30 a.m. on the following day.

From Karonga the carrier service is continued west to Abercorn and Fife in Northern Rhodesia, and north to Tukuyu in Tanganyika Territory. Other branch carrier services connect the lake stations to the main route.

Once every four weeks, letter mails for the lake stations and parcel mails for all stations north of Mzimba are forwarded by rail to Chipoka, on the northern extension, for transfer to the s.s. *Guendolen* or m.v. *Mpasa* which, after a round trip of Lake Nyasa, return 12 days later with out-going mails.

Letter mails are despatched to, and received from, South Africa, Southern and Northern Rhodesia and Portuguese East Africa by rail twice weekly. Overseas letter mails are despatched and received once weekly and are conveyed by rail to and from Capetown, via Beira and Salisbury and by Union Castle steamer between Capetown and Southampton. The time taken from Blantyre to Southampton is 22 days, and in the reverse direction 21¼ days. Overseas parcel mails are railed to and from Beira and carried by steamer between that port and London. The time occupied in transit is approximately 41 days.

Letter mails circulating to and from external countries are dealt with by the travelling post office which operates between Blantyre and Sena (P.E.A.) twice-weekly in both directions.

On the 1st of April the African Postal and Telecommunication Union was formed and fills a long felt need for closer co-operation in post office matters between the countries in southern Africa. One of the immediate benefits derived from this union was the introduction of a flat rate of postage between the countries participating.

Air Mails.

As a result of the duplicated Imperial Airways service between London and Durban there is now a twice-weekly air mail to most countries. The branch services between Salisbury and Blantyre are operated by Rhodesia and Nyasaland Airways, Limited, as is also the once-weekly service between Blantyre and Beira.

Digitized by Google

Telegraphs.

The main telegraph system was originally constructed by the African Transcontinental Telegraph Company. Cecil Rhodes, who was the driving force behind the company, conceived the idea of linking up by telegraph the distant countries under British control north of the Zambezi, with a view to the establishment of an all-red Cape to Cairo telegraph route. He thus hoped to secure an alternative route between South Africa and Great Britain cheaper than that provided by the submarine cable from Capetown, by which route the charge was then 11s. a word.

The line was built from Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, *via* Tete in Portuguese territory to Blantyre in 1896. From Blantyre the construction proceeded northwards along the Lake shore to Karonga in the extreme north of the Protectorate, where it branched north-west of Fife and Abercorn and, crossing the then German East Africa border, proceeded northwards through Bismarcksburg (now Kasanga) to Ujiji on the eastern shore of Lake Tanganyika.

Ujiji was reached in 1902, the year in which Cecil Rhodes died, and with his death the construction ceased. The dream of linking up the south by direct telegraph line with the north never matured. The advent, since those days, of railways, motor roads and wireless telegraphy, including beam working has helped to achieve in other ways the objects for which the line was built. Cable rates by beam wireless from Southern Rhodesia to Great Britain are now 1s. 2d. and 7d. a word. From Nyasaland the charges are 1s. 7d. and 9½d. A branch line was also constructed by the African Transcontinental Telegraph Company from Domira Bay to Fort Jameson where a telegraph office was opened in 1898.

In 1925 the Company went into liquidation and its immovable assets, represented by over 1,000 miles of well-built telegraph line and numerous telegraph offices in Nyasaland, Northern Rhodesia and Tanganyika, were taken over by the respective Governments at a purchase price of £12,500, the Nyasaland share being £10,750. The section running through Portuguese territory was purchased for £2,000, the Nyasaland and Southern Rhodesia Governments sharing the cost on the basis of line mileage each side of the Zambezi.

Since that date new lines have been built by Government and additional offices opened, the total number of the offices now being 27, excluding 16 public telegraph offices which are operated by Nyasaland Railways, Limited.

The formation of the African Postal and Telecommunication Union resulted in a considerable reduction in telegraph rates to and from the Administrations concerned.

Digitized by Google

The rise in the Lake level inundated a considerable length of the main telegraph line to Karonga and deviations north of Ntakataka were necessary. Altogether 51 miles of new line were erected and the line to Fort Jameson which previously branched off at Domira Bay was brought into Salima.

Telephones.

There are nine post office telephone exchanges and three railway and eighteen post office public call offices, providing telephone intercommunication between all important centres south of the Lake. The total number of telephones in use is now 344.

Wireless.

There are no wireless transmitting stations operating in the Protectorate either for commercial or broadcasting purposes.

The number of wireless receiving sets used by private persons continues to increase and during the year 64 new sets were licensed. Of the 260 sets at present in use 190 are of British make, 44 American, 17 Dutch and the remainder the product of various other countries.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

The Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, maintains branches at Blantyre, Limbe, Lilongwe and Zomba, while Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) has branches at Blantyre and Limbe.

The Post Office Savings Bank conducts business at the twenty-two more important offices. The bank continues to grow in popularity with all sections of the community and there was a considerable increase in both the number and value of accounts during 1936 as compared with the previous year's totals.

The number of open accounts rose from 1,981 in 1935 to 2,366 in 1936, while the total amount on deposit advanced from £44,202 to £48,550, representing increases of 19 per cent. and 10 per cent. respectively.

Currency.

English gold, silver and copper coins are legal tender in the Protectorate. The gold standard was abandoned with effect from the 12th of October, 1931, and the English sovereign is now at a premium of 12s. 6d. Bank notes issued by the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) in the territory of Southern Rhodesia are legal tender in Nyasaland. Silver coins of the denominations half-crown, florin, shilling, sixpence and threepence and cupro-nickel coins isued by the Government of Southern Rhodesia are current in the Protectorate and are legal tender for any amount not exceeding £2.

Digitized by Google

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in standard use throughout the Protectorate.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The headquarters office, workshops and stores of the Public Works Department are located at Zomba. For executive purposes two divisions, the Southern and Central, are established each under an Executive Engineer with headquarters at Blantyre and Dedza respectively. The South Nyasa area and the Northern area are in charge of Assistant Engineers stationed respectively at Fort Johnston and Mzimba.

The following are the figures of expenditure in 1935 and 1936:

	1935.	*1936.**
	£	£
Public Works Department	21,679	23,301
Public Works Recurrent	12,818	13,834
Public Works Extraordinary	3,601	10,643
Loan Expenditure :—		
East African Loan, Roads	7,799	1,020
Colonial Development Fund	1,731	1,519
	£47,628	£50,317

* Subject to adjustment on closure of accounts for the year.

The annual estimates provided for expenditure in 1936 on the restricted scale which has been necessitated during the period of financial depression, with the exception, however, that for road maintenance £1,000 more was provided, making a total of £10,000. The only capital works provided for in these estimates were the extension of the Zomba electric lighting system, the purchase of a house at Blantyre, the erection of some native staff quarters and a few minor items making a total of £2,140.

Owing to an improvement in the financial situation supplementary estimates to a total of £12,141 under Public Works Extraordinary were passed later in the year, which included £1,110 for special building repairs necessitated by the curtailment over several years of expenditure on maintenance. As the building season was then far advanced, only a beginning could be made with most of the capital works thus provided for, which included:—

Continuation of the sanitation scheme in Zomba.

Completion, by adding an upper storey, of one of the main blocks of the Central Prison, Zomba.

Three new houses, a new prison and an office and laboratory at Lilongwe for the Veterinary Department.

Digitized by Google

A post-office, quarters for an Asiatic customs clerk and native staff quarters at Salima.

A hangar at Zomba aerodrome.

Permanent bridging on the main north road (first instalment).

Mosquito-proofing of quarters at Lake Stations and Port Herald (first instalment).

Under the Colonial Development Fund two European houses for additional staff at the Jeanes Training Centre were begun and twenty-four huts were built for pupils.

Under the guaranteed loan remanent balances totalling £1,020 were spent on various items of road construction and improvement, including the banking of the lower swampy sections of the Lilongwe-Salima road, the opening of a seasonal road to serve the cotton markets between Belila and Chipoka and the location and commencement of a new all-weather road from Likwenu to Namwera via Kawinga. Towards the end of the year approval was received for the expenditure of a further £16,300 from the loan on road construction but the season was too far advanced for work to be undertaken.

The rise in the mean level of Lake Nyasa caused an increased flow in the Shire River which made it necessary to replace the low-level drift at Kambalame on the Blantyre-Tete-Salisbury road by a high-level bridge. £1,100 for this was provided under Public Works Extraordinary and the new bridge, begun in August, was nearly completed by the end of the year.

From the same cause the Liwonde Bridge on the main north road from Zomba was choked by floating sudd and partially demolished and a ferry service had to be installed pending the reconstruction of the bridge.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The courts of the Protectorate consist of the High Court with jurisdiction over all persons and over all matters in the Protectorate, and courts subordinate thereto. There are also native courts, which are supervised by the Provincial Commissioners.

Subordinate courts are nominally of the first, second and third class with differentiated powers of trial of natives and non-natives, the trial of non-natives being reserved in certain matters to courts of the first and second classes.

There is, however, at present no court of the first class as Provincial Commissioners do not hold warrants as Magistrates and the court of the first class presided over by a Town Magistrate no longer sits, as the post was abolished for reasons

Digitized by Google

of economy. The second and third class courts are presided over by the District and Assistant District Commissioners of each district.

The Criminal Procedure Code confers a limited jurisdiction on first and second class courts over Europeans and Non-Natives, the sentences which may be imposed upon these two classes by a court of the second class being limited to six months.

The graver crimes are tried by the High Court after a preliminary inquiry before a court of the second or third class.

Subordinate courts of the first and second class may try natives for any offence under the Penal Code or any other law, other than treason or misprision of treason, but any sentence of more than six months' imprisonment is subject to confirmation by the High Court.

Subordinate courts have the power to commit serious cases for trial to the High Court and this is being done to an increasing extent in the case of murder.

In murder and manslaughter cases tried by magistrates the procedure laid down in section 202 of the Procedure Code may be adopted. The magistrate sits with three native assessors and a preliminary inquiry is generally dispensed with. Before the accused can be found guilty or not guilty the magistrate must forward a copy of the proceedings to the Attorney-General with a memorandum setting forth the opinions of the assessors and his conclusions. The Attorney-General may direct that further evidence be taken or that the case be transferred to the High Court for trial. If satisfied with the trial in the subordinate court he submits a copy of the record to the High Court together with a memorandum of his conclusions. The High Court can then give such directions as it considers necessary and finally if it is "satisfied that the evidence so permits shall direct the magistrate to enter a finding of not guilty and to discharge the accused from custody or to enter a finding of guilty and pass sentence accordingly." Every such sentence is subject to confirmation by the Judge. When sentence of death is passed the accused must be informed of his right to appeal to His Majesty's Court of Appeal for Eastern Africa within thirty days.

This procedure forms an exception to the procedure adopted in the other territories under the Court of Appeal and is falling into disuse, more than 80 per cent. of the murder cases recently having been tried by the High Court after preliminary inquiry.

In civil matters, courts of the first, second and third class have jurisdiction over Europeans and Asiatics in all matters in which the amount or value in dispute does not exceed £100, £50 or £25 respectively. "Courts of the first and second class may subject to the provisions of article 20 of the British Central

Digitized by Google

Africa Order in Council, 1902, try any native civil case and courts of the third class may subject as above and subject to the provisions of section 13 (of the Courts Ordinance—Cap. 3 R.L.N.) try any such case." Section 13 reserves certain cases " of such importance as not to fall under the head of mere district discipline " to courts of the first or second class or the High Court, unless the Governor shall otherwise direct.

Native courts were established in 1933 to exercise over natives such jurisdiction as the Governor may by warrant under his hand authorize a Provincial Commissioner by his warrant to confer upon the court. Certain territorial limits are set by the Ordinance and certain subjects are reserved to other courts. For offences against native law and custom they may impose a fine or may order imprisonment or corporal punishment " or may inflict any punishment authorized by native law or custom, provided that such punishment is not repugnant to natural justice and humanity and the fine or other punishment shall in no case be excessive but shall always be proportioned to the nature and circumstances of the case."

The High Court may call for the records of all courts subordinate to itself to satisfy itself as to the legality and propriety of the proceedings and sentence.

Records of the Native courts are similarly dealt with by District Commissioners. Native courts are not under the supervision of the High Court but of the Provincial Commissioners.

Appeals lie from subordinate courts to the High Court (except in cases tried under the provisions of section 202 of the Criminal Procedure Code when the appeal is to His Majesty's Court of Appeal for Eastern Africa).

Appeals from Native courts lie to the District Commissioners, Provincial Commissioners and ultimately to the Judge of the High Court.

The Judge arranges circuits at convenient times and so far as is possible fixes the venue in or near the district in which the alleged crime has been committed. He also inspects the court books and files of subordinate courts and discusses points of law arising out of the cases tried by magistrates. He is *ex officio* Visiting Justice of the Central and District prisons of the Protectorate.

Police.

The Nyasaland Police Force was reorganized in 1920 and the present establishment consists of 13 European Officers (including a Commissioner), two European Inspectors, three Asiatic Inspectors and 499 African ranks.

Although essentially a Civil Force, all the rank and file are armed with S.M.L.E. rifles and in time of war the Force is liable to be called up to serve with regular troops.

Digitized by Google

The Headquarters in Zomba comprise a Training Depot, Criminal Investigation Department, Finger Print Bureau, Immigration Department, Passport Office and Registry of Motor Vehicles.

Owing to the limited European staff professional police officers are in charge of units in the more settled areas of the Southern Province only. In other places the District Commissioners are in command of the police posts in their respective districts.

In the areas where police officers are in charge statistics of crime are recorded in detail. During 1936 the number of cases dealt with by the police in such areas was 2,864 as against 2,754 in the previous year, an increase of 110. Offences against the person numbered 230 or 8·0 per cent. of the total cases reported, while offences against property were 856 or 29·89 per cent.

It is gratifying to record a decrease of 190 in the number of offences against property as compared with 1935 figures. The decrease is attributed to the efficient system of night patrols in the various townships and to the fact that a number of notorious burglars and incorrigible thieves are still serving previously awarded prison sentences. This decrease reflected a most satisfactory fall in the value of property reported stolen. Whereas the value of property reported stolen during 1935 was £2,023, the corresponding value for 1936 was £1,110 only, a decrease of £913.

Of the amount stolen (£1,110), property to the value of £393, representing 35·4 per cent., was recovered.

The number of true cases of murder was 14 against 22 in the previous year.

Prisons.

The established prisons comprise a Central Prison at Zomba; 19 district prisons situated at the headquarters of each administrative district and temporary prisons at Chileka Aerodrome in the Blantyre District and at Mkulas in the Upper Shire district. The Central Prison is for the reception of Europeans, Asiatics, long-sentence Africans and recidivists. The other prisons are for short-sentence non-recidivist Africans.

The Central Prison is supervised by a European Superintendent with a Deputy Superintendent and a Gaoler to assist him. The warder staff is composed of Africans. The European accommodation consists of a section of five single cells. The African section consists of two blocks, one of which contains 28 wards, 12 to accommodate eight prisoners each and 16 wards with a capacity for 12 convicts each. The second block contains 50 single cells. Within the main walls there is a hospital section. Without the walls there are

Digitized by Google

isolated sections consisting of one association ward with four cells for venereal cases, one association ward with four cells for lepers and two association wards with four cells for infectious cases. In addition there are two wards for newly arrived prisoners. The female section contains one ward and four cells. Male adult prisoners are classified as follows:—

Section I.—Prisoners sentenced to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term of three years and upwards.

Section II.—Prisoners sentenced to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term of less than three years.

Prisoners in each section are graded as follows according to their character and antecedents so far as can be ascertained:—

Grade A.—Not previously convicted for serious crime and not habitually criminal.

Grade B.—Previously so convicted or habitually criminal and of corrupt habits (recidivist grade).

Accommodation is now being provided, which, when completed, will permit of prisoners in A and B grades being kept in separate blocks of the prison.

Technical training is given in the prison workshops. Trades include carpentry, tinsmithery, tailoring, weaving, etc.

District prisons of the older type mostly consist of association wards, but all new constructions are being put up according to a standard plan on modern lines. These prisons are under the supervision of Administrative Officers or Officers of Police. African warders or policemen form the African staff.

The number of admissions to prisons during 1936, compared with that of 1935, was:—

	1935.	*1936.*
European males	1	5
Asiatic males	7	2
Coloured males	1	0
African males	4,859	4,810
African females	47	82
	4,915	4,905

The daily average number of persons in all prisons during 1936 was 901·47 as against 980·25 for the previous year.

The general health of the prisoners has been very good. Although the total number of admissions was only 10 less than in the previous year the number of persons admitted to hospital decreased by 145 and the daily average on the sick list by 11·62. The total number of deaths was 9 as compared with 14 in 1935. The death rate per thousand of the total prison population was only 1·03. Five executions were caried out in 1936.

Digitized by Google

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is a résumé of the more important legislation enacted during the year 1936:—

No. 2. *The Savings Bank Ordinance,* 1936, gives effect to the recommendations of a committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the purpose of examining the working of Savings Bank legislation in the dependencies and is promulgated with a view to uniformity of system throughout those dependencies.

The Savings Bank Rules, 1936 (Government Notice No. 50 of 1936) provide generally for carrying the Ordinance into effect.

No. 3. *The Medical Practitioners and Dentists (Amendment) Ordinance,* 1936, makes provision for the registration and certification of native midwives.

No. 4. *The Motor Traffic (Amendment) Ordinance,* 1936, gives effect to certain minor amendments to the Motor Traffic Ordinance, 1934, which experience has shown to be desirable. The policy of co-ordination of road and rail traffic is in no way affected by the amendments.

No. 9. *The Cotton (Amendment) Ordinance,* 1936, is designed mainly to facilitate the work of the Department of Agriculture. Government Notice No. 19 of 1936 sets out the fees to be charged for cotton buying licences and the Cotton Rules, 1936 (Government Notice No. 20 of 1936) sets forth the conditions under which raw cotton may be purchased by licensed buyers.

No. 10. *The Flue-Cured Tobacco Marketing Ordinance,* 1936, was introduced at the request of the Nyasaland Tobacco Association and has for its object the control of marketing of all flue-cured tobacco. Provision is made for the formation of a Tobacco Control Board with power to establish and control a tobacco pool.

No. 16. *The Employment of Women Ordinance,* 1936, prohibits the employment of women underground in mines.

No. 18. *The Penal Code (Amendment) Ordinance,* 1936, repeals the Seditious Publications (Prohibition) Ordinance (Cap. 25 of the Laws) and incorporates the provisions of that Ordinance in the Penal Code. Owing to the decision of the House of Lords in " Woolmington versus the Director of Public Prosecutions " it became necessary to repeal section 172 of the Code.

No. 20. *The United Kingdom Designs (Protection) Ordinance,* 1936, repeals the Registration of Designs Ordinance (Cap. 94 of the Laws) which provided for local registration, on payment of fees, of designs registered in the United Kingdom. This Ordinance affords to the proprietors of designs registered in the

Digitized by Google

United Kingdom the same rights and privileges in the Protectorate as they enjoy in the United Kingdom, without local registration.

No. 21. *The Tea Cess (Amendment) Ordinance,* 1936, increases from sixpence to one shilling the maximum amount of cess that may be levied under the principal Ordinance. It was introduced at the request of the Nyasaland Tea Association. Government Notice No. 87 of 1936 provides for a levy of tenpence per 100 lb. of tea exported.

No. 26. *The Native Hut Poll Tax (Amendment) Ordinance,* 1936, empowers the Governor to pay to the Government of any adjacent territory the tax collected within the Protectorate from natives of that territory, if a similar arrangement in respect of Protectorate natives is in force in that territory.

No. 27. *The Credit Trade with Natives (Amendment) Ordinance,* 1936, gives effect to a recommendation of the Nyasaland Chamber of Commerce for the increase of the amount of credit which may legally be given by non-natives to natives from £1 to £10.

No. 28. *The Game (Amendment) Ordinance,* 1936, makes provision for the appointment of a Trout Fishing Board and vests the control of fishing for and acclimatisation of trout in such Board.

The Air Navigation (Colonies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories) Order, 1927 (Government Notice No. 43 of 1936), consolidates the various Air Navigation Orders which have been applied to the Protectorate from time to time.

The Customs Ordinance (Cap. 47).—Government Notices Nos. 24 and 81 of 1936 amend Schedule I to the Ordinance, and Government Notice No. 71 of 1936 prohibits the export of arms, aeroplanes and war materials to Spain.

The Prison Rules, 1936 (Government Notice No. 34 of 1936), are up to date rules providing for the better administration of prisons and matters incidental thereto within the Protectorate.

The Legal Practitioners (Amendment) Rules, 1936 (Government Notice No. 39 of 1936), enable the Judge of the High Court to admit any person to plead before the High Court and before Subordinate Courts on behalf of a native defendant in any particular criminal cause or matter.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue and expenditure for the past three years was as follows:—

	Revenue	*Expenditure*
1934	560,552	571,674
1935	648,844	622,874
1936	798,426	754,217

Digitized by Google

Loans in aid of the Trans-Zambezia Railway Annuities, and grants from the Colonial Development Fund are included under revenue, while under expenditure are also included disbursements in respect of the same services.

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Protectorate on 31st December, 1936, amounted to £5,198,122 made up as follows:—

	£
Redemption of Railway Subsidy Lands	118,968
East Africa Protectorates Loan, 1915–1920	36,634
Trans-Zambezia Railway Guarantee and Annuities ...	1,472,520
Nyasaland 4½ per cent. Guaranteed Loan	2,000,000
Nyasaland 3 per cent. Guaranteed Loan	1,570,000
Total	£5,198,122

Taxation.

The main heads of taxation, together with their yields, were:—

	£
Customs and Road and River Dues ...	159,979
Hut Taxes	131,608
Income Tax	23,809
Non-Native Poll Tax	3,850
Licences	26,343

Customs.

Duties are imposed under the Customs Ordinance, 1906, and during 1936 they were distributed as under:—

Import Duty:—

Table 1.—Specified duties on motor vehicles: matches, cement, wines and spirits, soap, ales, beers, tobacco, umbrellas, cotton piece-goods, etc.

Table 2.—33 per cent. *ad valorem* on second-hand clothing and perfumed spirits.

Table 3.—28 per cent. on luxury articles, e.g., firearms, jewellery, silks, etc.

Table 4.—13 per cent. *ad valorem* on necessities and articles of common use, e.g., provisions, etc.

Table 5.—20 per cent. *ad valorem* on articles not otherwise specifically charged under other Tables.

Table 6.—3 per cent. *ad valorem* on articles of an industrial nature, e.g., machinery, packing materials, etc.

Hut Tax.

A hut tax of 6s., if paid before the end of September in each year, and 9s. if paid thereafter, is payable by every native owning or occupying a hut. The tax is payable in respect of each hut owned. Exemption is granted in respect of widows and any other person who on account of age, disease or other physical disability is unable to find the means wherewith to

Digitized by Google

pay the tax. District Commissioners may also, subject to the general or special directions of the Governor, exempt from the payment of the whole or any part of the tax any person who produces satisfactory evidence that owing to economic conditions he is unable to pay.

Every adult male native who is not liable to pay hut tax must pay a poll tax equivalent to the tax on one hut.

Employers of natives who have entered the Protectorate from other territories are required to pay tax on their behalf at the rate of one-twelfth of the total tax a month, and may recover the sums thus paid from their employees.

Native visitors who do not obtain employment are exempt from poll tax.

Income Tax.

Every non-native adult male is required to pay income tax as imposed by the Income Tax Ordinance, 1925, as amended, subject to certain abatements and allowances.

No tax is payable on incomes of £300 and under and, in the case of a married man, on £600 and under. There are also allowances for children and insurance. Companies are taxed at the rate of 2s. 6d. in the pound, subject to relief in respect of double Empire tax.

A poll tax of £2 is imposed on every adult non-native male by the Non-Native Poll Tax Ordinance of 1928.

Licences.

These are imposed under various ordinances and consist of the following, the collection during 1936 being shown against each:—

	£
Arms and Ammunition	844
Bankers	175
Bicycles	1,855
Bonded warehouse	60
Game	343
Hawkers	54
Liquor	674
Miscellaneous	445
Tobacco	1,279
Trading	11,088
Dog	162
Trout	43
Motor Vehicles	5,550

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

The demand for land during 1936 was greater than that of the previous year. Sixteen leases of a total acreage of 4,692 acres were registered as compared with three leases totalling 2,020 acres in 1935 and nine leases totalling 1,454 acres in 1934.

Digitized by Google

Five long term leases of a total of 5,690 acres were registered, these being conversions from short term leases granted under the old Crown Lands Ordinance.

Sixteen leases of a total of 6,385 acres were determined by surrender, expiry or re-entry, but of these four leases of a total of 1,366 acres were surrendered in connection with the conversions referred to above.

Ninety-six yearly tenancy agreements for trading, tobacco buying plots, etc., were issued and 44 tenancies were cancelled as compared with 140 tenancies issued and 51 cancellations in the previous year.

Twenty-six surveys aggregating 5,469 acres were completed during the year.

The Nyasaland Protectorate (Native Trust Land) Order in Council, 1936 (*Government Notice No. 25 of* 1936), provides that there shall be no further alienations of land in fee simple. All land not already alienated is native trust land and this land is vested in the Secretary of State and is administered by the Governor for the direct or indirect benefit of the natives of the Protectorate. Native trust land may be the subject of rights of occupancy, but the Native Authority of the area is first consulted and the proceeds of such a right is paid into the treasury of the Native Authority or into a central fund for the purpose of making grants to such treasuries. Certain articles of the Order in Council relate to minerals and make provision for the disposal of royalties received from minerals won on native trust land.

Mining.

The interest in gold prospecting remained dull, only ten prospecting licences being issued as compared with 20 in 1935. No discoveries of any importance were reported. The local banks handled 21·02 ounces of gold.

Immigration.

The Chief Commissioner of Police is the Principal Immigration Officer. To him all other Officers and Inspectors of Police, as well as certain District Commissioners and Customs Officers are assistants.

The ports of entry are Port Herald, Chileka, Fort Manning, Fort Johnston, Karonga, Mzimba, Dedza, Ncheu, Chikwawa and Mlanje.

All persons arriving in the Protectorate must report to an immigration officer and satisfy him that they are not prohibited immigrants. They should be in possession of passports or other documentary evidence of identity and nationality.

Entry is restricted in the case of persons convicted of serious crime; those suffering from infectious, contagious or mental disease, those likely to be dangerous to peace and good order, or likely to become a burden upon public funds.

Digitized by Google

Persons in the following categories, if known to an immigration officer or if their identity is otherwise established, are allowed to proceed without further formality:—

Members of His Majesty's regular naval or military forces; persons accredited to the Protectorate by or under the authority of the Imperial or of any foreign government; persons domiciled in the Protectorate and not otherwise prohibited from entry; the wives and children of such persons.

Other non-native immigrants must be prepared to make a deposit of £100 or to produce some other acceptable security from a person known to be of sound financial standing. This policy is strictly followed when dealing with persons who appear to be in an impecunious position and who may be liable to become a public charge. Visitors who arrive for a temporary stay are caused a minimum of inconvenience.

The number of non-native persons, including returning residents and persons in transit, who entered the Protectorate during each of the past five years, is set out as follows:—

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Europeans ...	3,149	3,507	3,474	3,980	3,759
Asiatics... ...	928	1,295	1,342	1,084	1,013

During 1936 the methods of transport which immigrants arriving in the Protectorate adopted were:—

	By Air.	*By Rail.*	*By Road.*	*By Water.*
Europeans ...	352	932	2,473	2
Asiatics ...	—	383	626	4

Publicity.

The Publicity Committee is appointed by the Governor and consists of an official Director and eight unofficial members who serve voluntarily.

The sum normally voted for publicity puposes is £800 per annum. During the year 1936, however, this sum was increased by £400 to £1,200 and again by special warrant to £1,585. To this sum again there were added public subscriptions amounting to £345 5s.

There were two events of outstanding importance in the interests of Nyasaland tourism during the year, the first being Nyasaland's participation in the Empire Exhibition at Johannesburg and the second, the part taken by this country in the motor road race from Nairobi, Kenya, to Johannesburg. The additional sums voted by Government and subscribed by the public were required to meet the expenditure thereby incurred.

A revised edition of the brochure, *Nyasaland Calling,* numbering 10,000 copies, was printed, mainly for distribution at the Empire Exhibition.

Digitized by Google

Other propaganda activities of the Publicity Bureau during the year included the writing of illustrated articles for publication in certain South African, Southern Rhodesian and Beira newspapers, the *Field* and special issues of *The Times* and *Crown Colonist*. A combined enquiry bureau and tourists' rest room was opened in Blantyre.

The rest houses provided by Government at Kasungu, Njakwa, Mzimba and Fort Hill proved very popular and have been reported by tourists to be efficiently managed by the natives in charge.

The number of European visitors to Nyasaland during the last five years is as follows:—

1932	1,466
1933	1,622
1934	1,537
1935	1,929
1936	1,624

The Native Welfare Committee.

The Native Welfare Committee was appointed in July, 1935, to keep the co-ordination of effort in welfare work under observation and to advise as to the steps which should be taken in the direction of such co-ordination. Welfare work is taken to mean the promotion of the welfare of the native by general material development along social, economic and political lines.

The members of the committee are the heads of the departments which come into direct contact with the natives in their villages, viz., the Senior Provincial Commissioner, the Director of Medical Services, the Director of Agriculture, the Director of Education and the Conservator of Forests. Its functions are advisory rather than executive, the executive functions being exercised by members in their capacity as heads of their respective departments.

During 1936 the Committee advised on a great many subjects including the utilization of native herds in the Northern Province; nutrition and improved housing conditions for natives; co-operative societies; famine measures; conditions of employment of native labour and emigrant labour. Memoranda were prepared on the relationship which should exist between the Administration, the Native Authorities and departmental officers and their subordinate staff working in native areas; the principles which should be followed when services now performed on behalf of the natives by the central government are transferred to the Native Authorities; the scope and nature of the training of the general community worker now being undertaken at the Jeanes school; the need for co-operation by Native Authorities in matters concerning the control of deforestation and general land usage and measures for soil conservation, and the establishment and encouragement of native markets.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Title of Publication.	*Published Price.*	*Cost of Postage to U.K.*	*Where obtainable.*
Nyasaland Government Gazette. (Subscription to the Government Gazette includes the free issue of all legislation enacted during the year.)	7s. 6d. per annum.	1s. 6d. per annum.	Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, London. Government Printer, Zomba.
Blue Book...	5s. 0d.		do.
Legislation.			
Revised Laws of Nyasaland to 1933 (3 vols.).	£1 per vol.	1s. 6d. per vol.	do.
Orders in Council, Proclamations and Government Legislative Measures. Annual 1934.	7s. 6d.	9d.	do.
Ditto, 1935	5s. 0d.	6d.	do.
Ditto, 1936	7s. 6d.	6d.	do.
Law Reports, Vol. II, 1927–1933.	3s. 6d.	3d.	do.
Annual Departmental Reports.			
Agriculture	2s. 6d.	2d.	do.
Audit	1s. 0d.	2d.	do.
Education	2s. 6d.	2d.	do.
Financial	1s. 0d.	2d.	do.
Forestry	1s. 0d.	2d.	do.
Geological Survey ...	1s. 0d.	2d.	do.
Medical...	4s. 0d.	2d.	do.
Native Affairs	2s. 6d.	2d.	do.
Police	1s. 0d.	2d.	do.
Posts and Telegraphs...	1s. 0d.	2d.	do.
Prisons	1s. 0d.	2d.	do.
Trade, External ...	2s. 6d.	2d.	do.
Veterinary	1s. 0d.	2d.	do.
Agriculture.			
Tobacco Culture (Hornby).	3s. 6d.	3d.	Director of Agriculture, Zomba.
Handbook on Cotton and Tobacco Cultivation in Nyasaland (McCall).	5s. 0d.	3d.	Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, London. Government Printer, Zomba.
Report on Tea Cultivation and its Development in Nyasaland (Mann).	2s. 6d.	2d.	do.
Native Agricultural Committee Report, 1930.	6d.	2d.	do.

Digitized by Google

Title of Publication.	*Published Price.*	*Cost of Postage to U.K.*	*Where obtainable.*
Bulletins — Agronomic Series.			
No. 1—Tobacco Culture	3s. 6d.		Director of Agriculture, Zomba.
No. 2—Types of Nyasaland-Grown Tobacco.	1s. 0d.		do.
No. 3—Studies of three important soil series of Nyasaland.	Limited Circulation.	No Charge.	do.
Bulletins — Entomological Series.			
No. 1—First Report on Pests and Diseases of Tea in Nyasaland.			do.
No. 4—Tea Mosquito Bug in Nyasaland.			do.
No. 6—Locusts and their destruction.			do.
Bulletins (New Series).			
*No. 7—Proceedings of the First and Second Meetings of the Fertilizers Sub-Committee of the Nyasaland Tobacco Association.			do.
No. 8—Citrus Fruit Prospects in Nyasaland.			do.
No. 9—Climate of Central Nyasaland.			do.
No. 10—Proceedings of the Third Meeting of the Board of Agriculture.			do.
No. 11—Denudation and Soil Erosion in Nyasaland.			do.
No. 12—The Rices of Northern Nyasaland.			do.
No. 13—A Short History of Tea Planting in Nyasaland.			do.
No. 14—Tea Seed Management.			do.
Geology.			
The Physiography, Geology and Mineral Resources of Nyasaland.	1s. 0d.	2d.	Director of Geological Survey, Zomba.

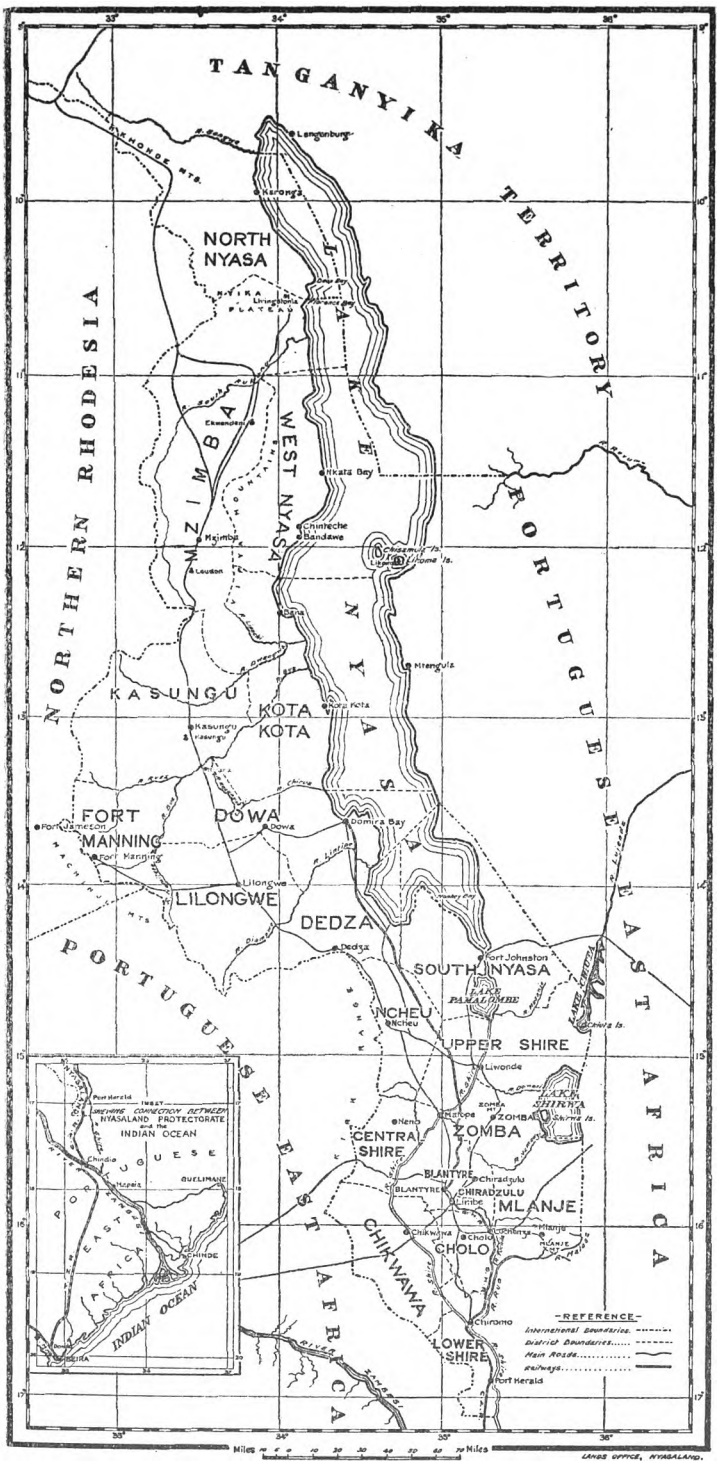
* Bulletins for local issue only.

Digitized by Google

Title of Publication.	*Published Price.*	*Cost of Postage to U.K.*	*Where obtainable.*
Bulletins.			
No. 3—The Limestone Resources of Nyasaland.	2s. 6d.	3d.	Director of Geological Survey, Zomba.
No. 4—The Portland Cement clays of Lake Malombe.	1s. 0d.	2d.	do.
No. 5—The Chilwa Series of Southern Nyasaland.	5s. 0d.	3d.	do.
Water-Supply Papers.			
No. 3—Weirs, Dams, and Reservoirs for Estate Purposes.	1s. 0d.	2d.	do.
No. 4—Water - Supply Conditions of country traversed by proposed Railway Extension to Lake Nyasa (1929).	1s. 0d.	2d.	do.
A Practical Handbook of Water Supply (Dixey).	21s. 0d.	6d.	do.
Various papers on the Geology, Mineral Resources, and Water Supply of Nyasaland.			do.
Handbook of Nyasaland...	5s. 0d.		Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, London, and Government Printer, Nyasaland.

All Publications Post Free in Nyasaland.

Digitized by Google



ELEVATION ABOVE SEA LEVEL OF PRINCIPAL PLACES (continued)

Zomba	2940 Ft.	Port Johnston	1700 Ft.	Luchenza	5200 Ft.
Blantyre	3800 Ft.	Dedza	4600 Ft.	Kota Kota	1800 Ft.
Limbe	4000 Ft.	Nchéu	3800 Ft.	Chikwawa	127 Ft.

(45472—48) Wt. 2527—3910 625 11/37 P. St. G. 377/7

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST.
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent [illegible]chester Street
or through [illegible]

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1824

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1823

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

JAMAICA, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1730 and 1796 respectively (Price 2s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN JAMAICA)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google



DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE

COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC REPORTS

The unrivalled collection of information provided by the Reports of the Department of Overseas Trade on world economic conditions may be obtained regularly for a subscription of £2 net. Reports on each country are not always issued annually although most important countries are so dealt with each year. The subscription rate represents a saving over the total net face value of the individual Reports. Reports on some 30 countries are issued annually.

Individual reports may be obtained.

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street
Andrew's Crescent
BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1823

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

JAMAICA, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1730 and 1796 respectively (Price 2s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN JAMAICA)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1937
Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF JAMAICA, 1936

CONTENTS

CHAPTER

I. GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY 1
II. GOVERNMENT 3
III. POPULATION 4
IV. HEALTH 5
V. HOUSING 11
VI. PRODUCTION 12
VII. COMMERCE 18
VIII. WAGES AND COST OF LIVING 29
IX. EDUCATION, AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS 31
X. COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT 35
XI. BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES 40
XII. PUBLIC WORKS 40
XIII. JUSTICE AND POLICE 42
XIV. LEGISLATION 45
XV. PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION 47

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Sutherland
1-31-38
15205

JAMAICA.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF JAMAICA, FOR THE YEAR, 1936.

CHAPTER I.

Geography, Climate and History.

1. Jamaica is an island in the Caribbean Sea, situated between 17° 43′ and 18° 32′ N. latitude and 76° 11′ and 78° 20′ 50″ W. longitude. It is the largest island of the British West Indies, its extreme length being 144 miles, greatest width 49 miles, and least width 21½ miles.

2. The Island is divided into three counties and fourteen parishes, viz.:—

Surrey.	Sq. Miles.	*Middlesex.*	Sq. Miles.	*Cornwall.*	Sq. Miles.
Kingston	7¾	St. Catherine	498	St. Elizabeth	473½
St. Andrew	183	St. Mary	251	Trelawny	353
St. Thomas	298½	Clarendon	487	St. James	239½
Portland	338	St. Ann	487	Hanover	177
		Manchester	337	Westmoreland	320
Total	827¼		2,060		1,563

comprising a total area of 4,540¼ square miles, or 2,848,160 acres, of which approximately 646 square miles, or 413,440 acres, are flat and consist of alluvium, marl and swamps. The population was ascertained by census in 1921 to be 858,118 or 189 per square mile. The Island is therefore more populous in proportion to its size than, for instance, France which has only 187 persons to the square mile. The Colony and its Dependencies (consisting of the Turks and Caicos Islands, the Cayman Islands, the Morant Cays and the Pedro Cays) comprise a little more than a third of the area, and contain nearly half the population of the British West Indies.

Digitized by Google

3. A great diversity of climate is obtainable, the temperature varying according to the season from 80° to 86° on the sea-coast to as low as 40° at the tops of the highest mountains. The dryness of the atmosphere renders the climate of the Jamaica uplands particularly delightful and suited to the most delicate constitution. Through the county of Surrey and partly through Middlesex, runs a central mountain chain trending generally in an east and west direction, the highest point of which, Blue Mountain Peak, attains an altitude of 7,388 feet. This is the highest elevation in the British West Indies. From the central range, subordinate ridges or spurs run to the north and south coasts of the Island; these are the parents of smaller ridges, which branch off in every direction with considerable regularity and method until the whole surface of the country is cut up into a series of ridges and intervening valleys.

4. Numerous rivers and streams suggest the origin of Jamaica's aboriginal Arawak name "Xaymaca," which is supposed to imply an overflowing abundance of rivers. Most of the streams have a rapid fall and are not, to any extent navigable.

5. Jamaica has many mineral springs, some of which possess valuable properties for the cure of various diseases and infirmities. The two principal are the spring at Bath, in the parish of St. Thomas, and that at Milk River, in the parish of Clarendon. Both these springs are radio-active, the latter in a very marked degree.

6. Jamaica possesses several harbours, the largest and most important being that of Kingston, the capital, one of the finest natural harbours in the world. This harbour has a total area of some 16 square miles, of which approximately 7 square miles have a depth of from 7 to 10 fathoms.

7. Jamaica was discovered by Columbus on the 3rd of May, 1494. He called it St. Jago, after the Patron Saint of Spain, but the new name was soon dropped in favour of the native one of Jamaica (Xaymaca—well watered). The first settlement on it was effected on the shores of St. Ann's Bay, by Esquivel in 1509, under the direction of Diego, the son of Columbus, while Governor of Hispaniola.

8. Although invaded by Sir Anthony Shirley in 1596, and by Colonel Jackson in 1643, Jamaica remained in the possession of Spaniards for 161 years when it was again attacked by a force sent by Cromwell under Admiral Penn and General Venables, against Hispaniola, and capitulated after a trifling resistance, on the 11th of May, 1655. Until the Restoration, Jamaica remained under military jurisdiction, but in 1661, a regular civil government was established by Charles II, who appointed General Edward D'Oyley, Governor-in-Chief with an Elective Council. In 1670 peace was made with Spain, and the title of England to Jamaica was recognised by the Treaty of Madrid. The Colony grew fast, stimulated by the wealth brought into it by the buccaneers, who made Port Royal their headquarters and storehouse. This town was engulfed in the great earthquake of 1692. Kingston then consisted of a few sheds, and St. Jago de la Vega (Spanish Town) became practically the capital. During the 18th Century, the Island suffered from hurricanes, earthquakes, numerous slave insurrections as well as wars with Maroons or mountaineers, the descendants of African slaves left by the Spaniards, who lived mainly in the east of the Island, among the Blue Mountains. When the Slave Trade was abolished in 1807, there were 319,351 slaves in Jamaica. During the last eight years of the trade, 86,821 slaves were imported. On the abolition of slavery in 1833, Jamaica received £5,853,975 of the £20,000,000 granted by the Imperial

Digitized by Google

Government as compensation to the slave owners. A serious rebellion among the black population in 1865, was suppressed by Governor Eyre.

9. In January, 1907, Kingston was devastated by a terrible earthquake which caused great loss of life and immense destruction of property. A Mansion House Fund was opened and contributions poured in from all parts of the Empire for the relief of distress. A free grant of £150,000 was voted by Parliament, and a loan of £800,000, chiefly in aid of the re-building, was authorized from the Home Exchequer.

10. English is the only language spoken in Jamaica. Traces of the Spanish occupation still remain in the names of many places, such as Rio Grande, Ocho Rios, St. Jago de la Vega, etc., and here and there a name of obviously African origin, such as Accompong, is to be found.

11. There are many purely local words such as "quattie" to describe the sum of 1½d., "buckra" to describe a white man, and "busha" to describe the manager of a plantation, and it takes a new comer to Jamaica some time to grasp what is being said to him especially in the remoter country districts.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

12. The original Constitution granted by Charles II, which after existing for over 200 years, was surrendered in 1865, was a representative one, consisting of a Governor, Nominated Council, and Elected Assembly, which on its first meeting in 1664 consisted of 20 members, but fluctuated in number from time to time. The depression caused by the abolition of slavery led to a grave constitutional crisis, the Assembly refusing to vote supplies and endeavouring to enforce sweeping reductions in establishments, without compensation to the displaced officers. Lord Melbourne's Government, 1839, actually introduced a Bill into Parliament for the suspension of the Constitution but was defeated and it was not till 1854 that, by a change in the Constitution of the Council, harmony was temporarily restored.

13. After the suppression of the rebellion in 1865, Governor Eyre, at the meeting of the Legislature, urged the unsuitability of the then existing form of Government to meet the circumstances of the community, and the necessity of making some sweeping change by which a strong government might be created. The Legislature willingly responded, abrogated all the existing machinery of legislation, and left it to Her Majesty's Government to substitute any other form of Government which might be better suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony.

14. By Orders in Council of the 11th June, 1866, and 11th November, 1869, a Legislative Council was established, consisting of such numbers of official and unofficial members as Her Majesty might think fit. The numbers of each were six until 1878, when they were enlarged to eight, and a ninth was added in 1881.

15. By Order in Council, dated 19th May, 1884, and Amending Order of 3rd October, 1895, the Constitution was fixed in the following manner:

The Council to consist of the Governor (with only a casting vote), five ex-officio members, viz.: The Senior Military Officer, the Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, Director of Public Works and Collector General; such other persons, not exceeding ten in number, as Her

Digitized by Google

Majesty may from time to time appoint or as the Governor may from time to time provisionally appoint, and fourteen persons to be elected as therein provided; the Council to be dissolved at the end of five years from the last preceding General Election, if it shall not have been previously dissolved.

16. There is also a Privy Council, with the usual powers and functions of an executive council. It consists of the Lieutenant-Governor (if any), the Senior Military Officer in command, the Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, and such other persons as may be named by the King, or provisionally appointed by the Governor, subject to the approval of His Majesty, the number of members not to exceed eight. The Governor presides at each meeting and the Governor and two members form a quorum.

17. The first registration under Law 22 of 1886, the Franchise Enlargement Law, was in August, 1887. At the General Election of Members to serve in the Legislative Council which was held in 1925, the number of voters on the list was 54,103. There were ten contested elections, the total number of votes cast being 15,359.

18. A Corporation of the amalgamated parishes of Kingston and St. Andrew, with a Mayor, Council and Corporate Officers, was set up in 1924. The Corporation acts through the Council which exercises all powers vested in the Corporation or the Council. The Council consists of the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors. The Councillors, eight in number, are elected, 4 for the Urban District, 2 for the Sub-Urban and 2 for the Rural. The Aldermen, 2 in number, are elected by the Council from voters holding qualifications necessary to entitle them to be elected as Councillors. No person holding the office of Councillor is qualified for election as an Alderman. In addition to the above, the Elected Members of the Legislative Council for Kingston and St. Andrew and the Custodes of Kingston and St. Andrew, are ex-officio members of the Council. A Water Commission appointed under Law 34 of 1936 controls the water and sewerage systems in Kingston and St. Andrew. In the 13 other parishes there are Elective Boards with jurisdiction over secondary roads, markets, sanitation, poor relief, water works and pounds. The chief towns are Kingston (including Port Royal) (population in 1921, 63,711), Spanish Town, (population 8,694), Port Antonio, (population, 6,272), Montego Bay (population, 6,580), Falmouth (population, 2,136), Port Maria (population, 2,481) and Savanna-la-Mar (population, 3,442).

19. The parish is the unit of local government, and each parish has its own institutions, managed by the Parochial Board, the members of which are elected by the persons entitled to vote for the election of members of the Legislative Council. The administration of poor relief by the Parochial Boards is controlled by a Board of Supervision. The total number of registered poor in 1935 was 10,966, being at the rate of 10.18 per thousand of population. Pauper Relief cost 1/8d. per head of population.

CHAPTER III.

Population.

20. There was a decrease in Emigration and an increase in Immigration during 1936 compared with the year 1935. The departures in 1934 were 662, in 1935, 612, and in 1936, 451. The arrivals in 1934 were 1,789, in 1935, 1,306, and in 1936, 969.

Digitized by Google

21. The estimated population of Jamaica at the close of the year 1936, was 1,138,558, this figure being arrived at by taking the estimated population on 31st December, 1935, and adding thereto the births and arrivals and deducting therefrom the deaths and departures during the year ended 31st December, 1936.

22. The number of marriages registered during 1936 was 4,421, the rate being 3.9 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 4.1 in 1935.

23. During the same period, 36,561 births were registered, of which 18,317 were boys and 18,244 were girls. The birth rate works out at 32.35 per 1,000 as against 33.48 during 1935.

24. The number of deaths registered was 19,629, of which 9,720 were males and 9,909 were females, the death rate being 17.37 per 1,000. The rate for 1935 was 17.70. During 1936, 5,910, or 30.10 per cent. of the total deaths, were those of children under two years of age, and of these, 4,781, or 24.35, were those of children under one year of age. The corresponding figures for 1935 were 31.8 and 26.10 per cent.

The infantile death rate under one year was 13.07, as compared with 13.7 in 1935.

25. The principal causes of death per 100 of total deaths among the inhabitants of Kingston were: Tuberculosis 8.26, Heart Disease, 9.54, Congenital Debility, 4.99, Pneumonia, 6.65, Old Age, 6.10, Chronic Nephritis (including unspecified 10 years of age and over) 5.38, Typhoid Fever 3.16, Diarrhoea and Enteritis 3.44, Cerebral Haemorrhage, Apoplexy 2.83, Cancer and other malignant Tumours 3.27, Syphilis 3.55, Malaria 4.32.

CHAPTER IV.

Health.

26. The Health of the Island was satisfactory during 1936, and particularly so during the last quarter. In the early months of the year there were two water-borne Epidemics—one of Typhoid, at Chapelton, in the parish of Clarendon, with 64 cases and 6 deaths, one of Dysentery at Yallahs, in the parish of St. Thomas, with 70 cases and 1 death.

27. Prolonged spring rains caused an increase of Malaria in the Summer, particularly in the Corporate Area of Kingston and St. Andrew, and to a less extent in parts of the parishes of St. Elizabeth and Manchester where no organised control measures had hitherto been found necessary, but prompt use of larvicides with liberal distribution of quinine were adequate to control these outbreaks.

28. There is evidence that the Yaws Control programme, instituted in 1933, is causing a steady reduction in the number of active and infectious cases.

29. Vigorous efforts were made to improve the control measures against Communicable Gastro-intestinal diseases, details of which are set out later in this Report.

30. The Out-door Dispensary Service attracted a greatly increased number of patients, there being 204,527 attendances in 1936, as compared with 59,327 in the previous year. While this service has relieved the out-patients departments of District Hospitals to some extent, the bed accommodation of some Hospitals has become quite inadequate and arrangements have been made for increases.

Digitized by Google

31. The demands on the Laboratory Service continued to increase rapidly and provision has been made in the coming year's Estimates to strengthen the Staff.

Vital Statistics.

32. Population.—The estimated population on 31st December, 1936, was 1,138,558.

Birth Rate.—36,561 births were registered, giving a rate of 32.35 per 1,000 population. 71.66% of the births were illegitimate.

Death Rate.—The crude death rate fell from 17.7 in 1935 to 17.4 in 1936.

Infant Mortality.—The Island death rates under 1 year and under 5 years were respectively 130 and 183 per 1,000 live births as compared with 137 and 186 in 1935.

Principal Disease Groups.

Gastro-Intestinal Diseases.

33. (a) *Enteric Fever.* 1,277 cases were notified as compared with 1,117 in 1935 and 1,361 in 1934. The parishes showing a significant increase over the previous year were Clarendon, St. Mary, St. Thomas, St. James and Portland, while there was marked reduction in Kingston, Trelawny and Manchester. 320 cases were treated in the Kingston Public Hospital with 53 deaths, and 723 cases in the District Hospitals with 150 deaths.

34. There was a water borne epidemic at the town of Chapelton with 64 cases and 6 deaths. In St. Mary the disease showed a widely scattered rise over the first half of the year.

35. (b) *Dysentery.*—There were 310 cases of Dysentery as compared with 184 in 1935. An epidemic of Bacillary Dysentery occurred at Yallahs of water borne origin with 70 cases and 1 death. 121 cases were admitted to the Public Hospitals with 10 deaths.

36. (c) *Intestinal Parasites.*—The rural population continue to show a hookworm infection rate of 60% to 90%, depending on rainfall, soil and sanitation, and the incidence of round worms is frequently over 50% in various districts. In townships, however, where the occupation and hygiene of the people make infection less likely, the rate is usually below 25%.

37. *Malaria.*—There were unusually prolonged rains in the Spring of 1936, which favoured maintenance of the high incidence of Malaria produced during the preceding four years, each with a rainfall above average, and during the Summer there were a few small outbreaks further inland and upland than had been observed for many years particularly in the uplands of St. Elizabeth and Manchester where lake formation developed. The measures undertaken were, however, sufficient to control these quickly.

38. In endemic coastal areas, where no organised control measures had hitherto been undertaken, there was some temporary rise in incidence which gave no cause for concern except in the Corporate Area of Kingston and St. Andrew. In this area the disease rose to epidemic proportions during the Summer with a number of deaths, but with the organisation of control measures and a relatively scanty October rainfall the conditions were rapidly returning to normal by the end of the year.

Digitized by Google

39. The following table shows comparative data for 3 years for Malaria:—

Malaria.	1934.	1935.	1936
Total Deaths recorded for Island ...	680	571	672
No. of in-patients, Kingston Public Hospital	882	683	1,359
No. of deaths, Kingston Public Hospital ...	32	22	42
No. of in-patients, District Hospitals ...	4,088	2,800	2,638
No. of out-patients, District Hospital ...	14,363	13,185	14,376
No. of deaths, District Hospitals ...	124	119	113

40. *Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*—1,452 cases were notified as compared with 1,395 in 1935, and 1,083 deaths were reported. 55% of the total number of new cases notified were from the Corporate Area and St. Catherine.

41. *Venereal Diseases.*—In the Kingston Public Hospital 449 cases of Syphilis and 317 of Gonococcal infections were treated with 23 and 1 deaths, respectively. District Hospitals admitted 1,072 cases of Syphilis with 48 deaths and 1,099 of Gonococcal infections with 2 deaths.

42. A Male Free Clinic was established in Kingston in October, 1936. Patients seen and treated at this Clinic as well as at the Women's Free Clinic established in 1935, are as follows:—

WOMEN'S FREE CLINIC.

Disease.	New Patients Treated.	No. of Treatments.
Gonorrhoea ...	3,252	67,047
Syphilis ...	1,683	17,199

MALE'S FREE CLINIC.

Disease.	New Patients Treated.	No. of Treatments.
Gonorrhoea ...	1,221	24,768
Syphilis ...	1,332	6,453

43. The visit of Mrs. Neville-Rolfe, Secretary-General of the British Social Hygiene Council, was followed by assistance being granted to the extent of £5,800 by the Colonial Development Fund on condition that the Colony provided the balance necessary to start Venereal Diseases Clinics at Kingston, Montego Bay, Port Antonio and Spanish Town and to improve the facilities at the Public General Hospital. A sum of £6,165 has been provided in the Estimates to carry out this programme.

Yaws.

44. In the course of surveys conducted by Health Officers in areas of light or moderate infection, 15,456 active cases of Yaws were found in a population of 448,288 persons, the infection rate varying from 0.5% to 10.0%. The Mobile Treatments Units of the Yaws Commission working in more heavily infected areas found from 35% to 60% of the population in these areas with either active disease or with a history of having been infected within a few years previously.

Digitized by Google

45. Fully 90% of the cases give a history of infection prior to 15 years of age and the disease is a major cause of disability of school children in many districts. The surveys carried out during 1936 include many re-surveys of areas which had been carefully treated from 6 to 12 months previously, and in every such area a definite reduction of the incidence of infectious cases has been observed, in some cases the reduction being more than 50%. These findings give assurance that a general reduction in the incidence of open Yaws has been effected during the year.

Diseases of School Children.

46. The Corporate Area of Kingston and St. Andrew is the only Local Authority provided with a School Medical Service. During 1936, 3,770 out of 4,921 children examined were found to have defects. These do not include Dental defects which are dealt with by the School Dentists.

47. In rural parishes surveys showed that as many as 96% of School Children in some districts are infected with Hookworm, and the great majority harbour other worms as well.

48. The School Medical Officer of the Corporate Area classified the children examined by her in 1936 with respect to their state of Nutrition as follows:—

Good or ...	...	56%
Very Fair	...	—
Subnormal	...	29.8%
Bad ...	...	14.2%
Total under-nourished	...	44%

Hospitals.

49. The following is a list of the Hospitals and Institutions of the Medical Department:—

	No. of Beds.
Public Hospital, Kingston	380
Maternity Hospital, Kingston	100
Public Lunatic Asylum	2,023
Public General Hospital, Morant Bay ...	32
" " " Hordley ...	40
" " " Port Antonio ...	55
" " " Buff Bay ...	50
" " " Annotto Bay ...	60
" " " Port Maria ...	67
" " " St. Ann's Bay ...	42
" " " Cave Valley ...	14
" " " Falmouth ...	25
" " " Ulster Spring ...	8
" " " St. James ...	72
" " " Lucea ...	30
" " " Sav.-la-Mar ...	68
" " " Black River ...	72
" " " Mandeville ...	37
" " " Chapelton ...	35
" " " Lionel Town ...	50
" " " Spanish Town ...	70
" " " Linstead ...	90
Lepers' Home, Spanish Town ...	120

Digitized by Google

Owing to increased demands the official accommodation at some Hospitals has been insufficient and arrangements for increased accommodation had to be made for example, St. James's Hospital now holds 124 with some difficulty.

50. The following table shows a comparison of the work of Hospitals over the past three years:

	Kingston Public Hospital.			District Hospitals.		
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1934.	1935.	1936.
In-patients	8,133	8,269	8,926	23,067	23,346	23,021
Out-patients	171,318	162,311	169,821	94,960	105,705	91,765
Operations	3,718	3,723	4,071	10,455	11,383	10,282
Deaths	742	698	712	1,110	1,216	1,196

51. The epidemic of Malaria in the Corporate Area of Kingston and St. Andrew mainly accounted for the marked increase of admissions of Out-patients in the case of the Kingston Public Hospital. Some decrease of Out-patients at the District Hospitals was recorded chiefly with respect to Malaria and Venereal Disease, and this total reduction of attendance is no doubt in large part due to the establishment of rural outdoor dispensaries which are now attracting large numbers who formerly had to go long distances to Hospitals.

52. Special accommodation for Maternity cases consisting of Labour Room, Maternity Ward, Baths, etc., has been provided during the year at the Port Maria, Lucea and Spanish Town Public General Hospitals, and it is hoped to continue to extend these facilities to all other District Hospitals.

53. Special expenditure for covered ways between Hospital buildings —from Wards to Operating Theatres, Kitchens, etc.—has been made and practically every Hospital is now well provided for in this respect.

54. In the X-Ray Department of the Kingston Public Hospital 3,721 patients were examined, as compared with 2,765 in 1934 and 3,105 in 1935.

Outdoor Dispensary Service.

55. The public took advantage to a greatly increased extent of the out-door dispensary ticket system established in 1934, there being 204,527 attendances during the year as compared with 59,327 attendances in 1935.

Prevention of Disease.

Laboratory Work.

56. The Laboratory provides free service for Private Practitioners with respect to Communicable Diseases in addition to its work for the Medical Department. There was a continued marked increase in its work in 1936, there being a total of 57,950 examinations compared with 39,566 in 1935 (the examination of mosquitoes and larvae not included). This new record is 46.5% over and above the total for the last year and more than twice the work done in 1934. The increase was manifested in nearly all phases of work, but the items mainly responsible were the high incidence of Malaria (in Kingston and St. Andrew especially) during the four months—June to September, and the establishment of the first two Clinics in the Island's Special Campaign against Venereal Disease.

Digitized by Google

57. The following Table indicates the increase for the past four years of examinations performed:—

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Kingston Public Hospital ...	10,099	19,259	22,634	20,064
Lunatic Asylum ...	601	967	1,530	1,642
Other Institutions ...	1,926	1,826	5,133	19,792
Country Medical Districts	1,018	1,783	3,871	7,527
Health Officers ...	739	2,709	3,440	4,241
Private Practitioners ...	716	835	2,958	4,684
Total	15,099	27,379	39,566	57,950

Gastro-Intestinal Diseases.

58. The important measures urged during the year were improvement of water supplies, latrine construction, hospitalisation of cases, inoculation of contacts, and also of large groups in areas showing tendency to a rise in incidence above average, during the year.

59. Exhaustive sanitary surveys were carried out with respect to water supplies and latrines, and as a result special efforts were made to improve the conditions in respect to those two important requirements. £25,175 have been spent on improvements from the Parochial Water Supplies Fund. Provision of £77,500 has been made in two instalments of the Loan proposals, and Loans amounting to £36,000 have already been approved in respect of the improvement of the supplies of Montego Bay, May Pen, Chapelton and Lucea. Proposals for improvement of other supplies were also put in course of preparation.

60. Local Boards of Health reported the construction of 12,442 new latrines as compared with 10,444 in the preceding year. 1,043 cases, or 82% of the total number of Typhoid notified were hospitalised, and 37,947 antityphoid inoculations were administered as compared with 35,094 in 1935.

Malaria.

61. Some extension of control was made in the 9 important endemic low-lying areas where temporary control measures have been maintained for some years. This was made possible by the co-operation of Local Boards and private owners. Two new control areas were organised, one in the Corporate Area of Kingston and St. Andrew because of the Summer epidemic, and the other at the Milk River Baths. In the former area reliance has had to be on larvicides for the present while further progress is being made on permanent drainage and filling and in the latter area the chief measure for safety of the visitors to the Baths is to maintain the river clear of vegetation for at least half a mile above and below the Baths.

62. In the absence of sufficient funds to undertake large schemes for permanent drainage and filling, it has been necessary to develop the use of larvicides as far as possible, together with unstinted distribution of quinine. These "temporary" measures have continued to be satisfactory in areas where Malaria was formerly of very high endemicity, and although the years 1931 to 1935 inclusive have been marked by rainfall above average, Malaria in these controlled areas has remained at a comparatively low level and the measures in these main foci have been of the greatest value in restraining the spread of the disease to uncontrolled areas where conditions have become more favourable on account of abnormal rainfall.

Digitized by Google

63. However, the main objective of permanent measures of control by filling and drainage has always been kept in view, and a steady progress was obtained during 1936 in filling with refuse collections in Kingston, Montego Bay and other coastal towns. A portion of a swamp at Orange Bay was filled, an amount of £200 being specially provided for the purpose. Plans have been prepared for reclamation under Loan Provisions for certain swamps in relation to Kingston, Montego Bay Port Maria and Black River.

Tuberculosis.

64. The main features of the Government programme for management of Tuberculosis are—

(a) Dispensary Service; (b) Institutional care; (c) Home supervision of cases; (d) Special Training of Medical Officers in diagnosis and treatment; (e) Education; (f) Research. This programme is augmented by the activities of the Anti-Tuberculosis League which has a branch in every parish and assists indigent infected families in various ways, fosters educational measures, provides the salaries for a few Nurses for home supervision, and aids in the rehabilitation of arrested cases.

65. During 1936, the effectiveness of the Dispensary service was indicated by the facts that the Kingston Tuberculosis Dispensary notified 80% of the total cases notified in the Corporate Area of Kingston and St. Andrew, and Medical Officers of Health of all other parishes notified 33% of the total cases in their parishes. The Radiological facilities for dispensary service maintained by Health Officers outside of Kingston provided by the X-Ray Motor Unit, which travelled 3,237 miles and took 2,417 X-Ray photographs of patients.

66. Some progress was made in carrying out the programme planned for establishing Institutional facilities. The general objective is that Government should provide the beds for cases suitable for active surgical treatment while Parochial Boards provide beds in Poor Houses for those which are not. A site has been selected for the erection of the King George V Jubilee Memorial Hospital and Sanatorium and plans and arrangements are being pushed for construction. It is planned also to construct a special Tuberculosis Ward of 16 beds in association with one hospital in each parish. One of these wards was completed during 1936, at the Linstead Hospital.

67. The Parochial Board of Westmoreland completed construction of special wards in connection with their Poor House, and the St. Catherine Board have made preparations to do the same. Seven other Boards had already provided special wards prior to 1936.

68. Home visits at varying intervals were made during the year to almost every known infected family. These were made by Health Officers, and also by Nurses in the parishes of Kingston and St. Andrew, Manchester, St. Catherine, and in Montego Bay and a few other towns, while elsewhere in rural areas this work was performed by Sanitary Inspectors.

69. The Rockefeller Foundation continued research work on Tuberculosis, particularly with respect to the possibility of vaccination against the disease and this study gives promise to be of great importance.

Yaws.

70. The general plan for control laid down in 1933 has now been established in every parish in the Island except in Kingston and small sections of Manchester and St. Ann where the disease presents no problem.

Digitized by Google

71. The plan was described briefly in the corresponding Report for 1935, the main features being:—

(a) The Island is mapped out in a number of control areas, each with a population of from 3,000 to 1,000.

(b) Sanitary Inspectors carry out a complete house to house census of each area recording cases of Yaws and serving notices on them to attend for treatment at a fixed time and place.

(c) Treatment Centres are fixed and a course of treatment is provided for a period of 6 to 8 weeks at each of these.

(d) Re-surveys with treatment of active cases are carried out in each area at intervals of 6 months as long as the disease is of sufficient importance in the area. In addition, cases may attend and obtain treatment at any hospital or dispensary.

72. A total of 149,534 treatments were given to approximately 28,700 cases by Medical Officers in charge of districts and by the Mobile Treatment Units of the Yaws Commission, as compared with 144,057 treatments to 34,619 cases in the previous year.

Infant Welfare.

73. The attendances at the Clinics of the Child Welfare Association showed decreases for the year ended 31st March, 1937. There were 17,748 attendances at sick Clinics as compared with 18,202 in the previous year and 5,622 attendances of well babies.

Bureau of Health Education.

74. This branch of Public Health was taken over by the Central Government on the 1st January, 1936.

75. Volume XII of the Bulletin *Jamaica Public Health* was published during the year, an addition of 22,000 copies being sent out each month. Pamphlets, leaflets, posters, etc., and pre-natal letters were distributed as usual.

Public Health Nursing.

76. Experimental demonstrations of the use of Public Health Nurses were undertaken in a few parishes. The Rockefeller Foundation assisted in these demonstrations particularly with respect to rural tuberculosis. School medical inspection, maternal hygiene and general health education were also included in the demonstrations, and these have served to create the interest of Local Boards of Health. The Government has proposed a scheme for Public Health Nursing on a co-operative basis with Local Boards of Health, some of which are already making arrangements to undertake the service.

School Dental Clinics.

77. Clinics are operated in nine parishes. 20,715 new children were examined, as compared with 23,449 in the previous year, with 14,770 extractions and 13,479 fillings.

Parochial Health Departments.

78. The main activities undertaken by the fourteen Local Boards of Health were control of Typhoid and other communicable gastro-intestinal diseases, Malaria, Yaws and Tuberculosis, Supervision of Milk and Food Supplies, Health Education, School Dental Clinics and in the Corporate Area of Kingston and St. Andrew, a School Medical Service.

79. The Central Government continued to assist Local Boards in these activities through the Central Board of Health mainly by provision of Medical Officers of Health and specially trained Sanitary Inspectors. The Central Government also provided 25% of the cost of 6 of the 9 Parochial School Dental Service.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER V.

Housing.

80. The Central Housing Advisory Board which was established in the preceding year has submitted proposals for slum clearance in Kingston. A special scheme has been set out in detail for establishment of a model township to provide accommodation for population to be displaced by clearance of one of the worst slum areas in Kingston. The principles outlined in this special scheme are such as will be generally applicable to further housing improvement in the Urban areas.

81. Allocation has been made from the Development Loan for a sum of £50,000 (part of a total of £100,000 to be devoted to Housing) to be expended from the second instalment of this Loan.

82. A Slum Clearance Bill will be presented at the 1937 Spring Session of the Legislative Council and after passing of the Bill a start will be made on the first project in Kingston.

83. In order that the amount allotted by Government to Slum Clearance and Housing Development may be utilized to initiate the greatest possible number of schemes, it will be used as a revolving fund to be recovered from sales of buildings erected under the scheme. The Central Housing Advisory Board has been in negotiations with Building Societies with a view to their financing the construction of model cottages and reconstruction of slum areas, on special terms. The tentative financial arrangements now before Government represent a great improvement on the existing facilities and will be of great relief to the poorer classes for whom these projects are specially designed.

84. The high class suburban areas of Kingston continued to expand along satisfactory lines. Outside of Kingston the most urgent slum problem is that which exists in Montego Bay. Full investigations are being carried out in this matter and its associated problems, such as drainage, sewage disposal and town planning with a view to improvement of the town as a Tourist Resort.

85. Montego Bay showed continued development of its suburban areas by construction of high class residences.

86. Several Estates carried out improvements to barracks, the replacement of inferior structures by model cottages with satisfactory kitchen and sanitary facilities at Rose Hall in St. James being specially worthy of mention.

CHAPTER VI.

Production.

87. The mean total Rainfall for the Island during 1936 was 86.20 inches which is 12.33 inches in excess of the average. During the first six months of the year the rainfall was 57% above the average but in the second half it was 12% below.

88. No serious storms or hurricanes occured during the year, but Northers were experienced on the Northside in the latter part of December and occasioned slight damage to banana cultivations. Two strong wind storms, one in July and one in October swept through a narrow path passing through Southern Saint Andrew, Lower St. Catherine and parts of Vere, which damaged banana cultivations and caused an estimated loss of about 150,000 plants.

Digitized by Google

89. Despite the effect of the two storms of 1935 upon the year's production of bananas, the value of the agricultural products again showed a marked increase over the previous year, which should be regarded generally, as a good one from the point of view of production.

90. Apart from favourable weather conditions there was a substantial improvement in markets for certain commodities:—cocoa, pimento and honey particularly. The value of the colony's four principal exports which ranked next in order to bananas, namely:—sugar, rum, citrus and coffee, increased from £967,700 in 1935 to £1,178,000 in 1936. These four items together represented in value a little less than one-third of the total value of the produce of the Island, as disclosed by Customs returns which show that the grand total of exports in 1936 was £3,697,608 as compared with £3,691,494. Again, excluding bananas, there was an increase in the value of all other Jamaican products amounting to £268,915 over the previous year.

91. It may be of interest to give a five-year comparison of the total value of products exported, including bananas, and the value of products exported, other than bananas:

	Total Value, including Bananas.	Value excluding Bananas.
1932* ...	£3,271,357	£1,402,246
1933* ...	£2,771,498	£1,753,022
1934 ...	£3,219,072	£1,200,596
1935* ...	£3,691,494	£1,517,088
1936 ...	£3,697,608	£1,786,003

*Years in which serious storms occurred.

It is thus clearly shown that there is a marked tendency for the value of products other than bananas to increase, which may be taken as an indication of the Colony's general agricultural improvement.

92. The exports of bananas in 1936 were 18,762,794 stems (11,742,279 counts) valued at £1,911,605, compared with 20,379,326 stems (13,098,330 counts) valued at £2,174,406 in 1935. It is again observed that these and other export statistics are furnished by the Collector General, whose returns are compiled from Customs export statements.

93. Examination of the prices paid to growers for bananas throughout the year, and of the internal charges involved by commissions, transport costs and wharfage, indicates that the actual value of the banana industry to the Island in 1936—i.e., the amount of money circulated in the Colony, was approximately two and a quarter million pounds.

94. The storms of 1935, as well as affecting production during that year, reduced the output during the early months of 1936, and it was not until the middle of May that weekly exports approximated to the normal figure. From then until the end of the year the exports were mainly typical of those of a normal year, except that in December the quantities were rather greater than usual. The peak export occurred during the period July 4th to August 15th, and on five occasions within that time weekly quantities shipped exceeded half-a million stems.

Digitized by Google

95. The effect of Panama Disease upon banana cultivations continues to be felt and is now proving a serious limit to production, particularly in parts of St. Mary and Vere. Conditions in the latter district of the parish of Clarendon are not the best for banana production, and the experience of large planters there indicates that banana production may be considerably reduced, giving place to sugar-cane and other crops. Inspectors of Plant Diseases in all districts of the Island have been required to exercise increased vigilance and to enforce the Law and Orders relating to the control of Panama Disease. The modified treatment authorised in 1935 is being applied with discretion but steady pressure upon cultivators of all classes continues to be necessary to ensure the prompt treatment of cases.

96. The Leaf Spot of bananas caused by the fungus *Cercospora musae* made its appearance in several districts of the Island but was most apparent in areas which had been affected by unusual weather conditions in the months of May and June. This condition has become apparent in the Caribbean area during the past few years and has given considerable trouble in Honduras where special measures have been taken to cope with it. Early action was taken in Jamaica to observe the onset of the disease and to test possible methods of control. Two officers of the Department of Agriculture visited Honduras to study the situation there, and upon their return definite experiments were planned in order to observe the variation in intensity of infection and possibilities of methods of control. Equipment and materials were imported by the Government in readiness to commence a control campaign by means of spraying, should that prove to be necessary, but at the time of writing there is no indication that the disease is likely to prove a serious factor in banana production in Jamaica. The position is, however, being most carefully watched and it is hoped that further experience will confirm the present opinion.

97. Reference was made in the Report for 1935 to the anxiety which was felt in regard to the Jamaica Banana Producers' Association and to the appointment of a Commission to investigate the Banana Industry. That Commission, consisting of Mr. W. Gavin, C.B.E., Mr. E. Furnival Jones and Mr. J. H. Gorvin, C.B.E., sat in Jamaica from January until May, during which time the banana industry at all stages, from production to marketing, was thoroughly investigated. Early in their proceedings the Commission was able to bring about a tentative working arrangement between the United Fruit Company and the Jamaica Banana Producers' Association, to which the Standard Fruit and Steamship Company were also a party. These arrangements worked satisfactorily and resulted in uniform prices being paid by all three exporting companies for fruit at the time of delivery, thus removing the difficulties experienced by the Association in their previous system of working which involved the payment of an advance upon the fruit at the time of delivery, with a subsequent payment when market returns had been ascertained. The Legislative Council approved of the Association being guaranteed in a sum of £10,000 for a period of six months to enable outright prices to be paid and it is satisfactory to note that over the period of the whole year, the Association made a small profit and did not find it necessary to call upon the Government to implement the guarantee.

98. The recommendations of the Jamaica Banana Commission, contained in their extensive and valuable report which was issued to the Public in August, 1936, have now received the approval of the Legislative Council, which enacted three Laws:—

Digitized by Google

(a) Law 20 of 1936—A Law to reconstitute the Jamaica Banana Producers' Association, Limited, into a Trading Company.

(b) Law 21 of 1936—A Law to provide for the issue by The Jamaica Banana Producers' Association, Limited, of Debentures and for Government Guarantee of such Debentures

(c) Law 24 of 1936—A Law to enable the Regulation and better control of the Banana Industry.

The terms of the Agreement amongst the Companies were the subject of considerable discussion which took the form of friendly negotiations. These have now been concluded and the Agreement ratified . It is confidently expected that this Agreement, combined with the legislation referred to above, will ensure the prosperity of the banana industry for ten years.

Sugar.

99. The total production of sugar by the 34 factories operating in the Island was 91,463 tons compared with 76,753 tons in 1935. There was also a substantial increase in exports of sugar both in quantity and value, the amount exported in 1936 being 77,809 tons, valued at £632,451, compared with 68,739 tons valued at £558,464 in 1935. The statistics in respect of independent cane farmers and the quantities of cane supplied by them to factories for the year 1936 are not available at the time of writing, but it is understood from the Jamaica Sugar & Rum Manufacturers' Association that a further substantial increase was experienced during the year.

100. Attention is being given to the encouragement of improved methods of cultivation with the object of increasing yields of cane for smaller and less experienced growers.

101. The periodical issue of field and factory statistical records compiled by the Department of Agriculture with assistance given by the Sugar Manufacturers' Association was continued.

102. "A Survey of the yields of Sugar Cane in Jamaica for 1934/35" was published by the Department of Agriculture as Bulletin No. 8 during the year. The returns received for the compilation of this report represented 93% of the total cane grown at the 34 factories compared with 78% for the previous annual period.

Rum.

103. A still further increase in the exports of Rum occurred in 1936, the figures being 671,335 gallons valued at £194,645, compared with 466,259 gallons, valued at £149,998 in 1935. It is reported that a greater demand for rum is now being experienced.

Citrus Fruits.

104. The Citrus Industry experienced a very good year, which gave promising indications for future production both for local consumption and export.

105. The New Zealand market for oranges, which has been developed since the 1933/34 season when exports to that Dominion first commenced, provided an outlet for 58,217 boxes of oranges during the calendar year.

106. Total exports of oranges in 1936 were 346,728 boxes, valued at £120,233. This quantity included 89,246 boxes of bitter oranges exported for marmalade manufacture, which were valued at £23,856. Orange exports for 1935 totalled 143,597 boxes, valued at £56,625. The exports of this fruit in 1936 were 4½ times the quantity and nearly 4 times the value of those for the year 1934. Grapefruit exports totalled

Digitized by Google

180,678 boxes valued at £69,765, compared with 107,166 boxes, valued at £47,170 in the previous year. There is a substantial local market for oranges and grapefruit, the consumption of which cannot be ascertained.

107. The future of the Citrus Industry is promising despite the set-backs experienced by some individuals owing to market fluctuations and to the fact that seeded grapefruit can only command a remunerative price in export markets for short periods of the year. From the export point of view the Citrus Industry ranked fourth with a total f.o.b. value of £190,000 in 1936, excluding minor products such as limes, orange oil, lime oil and lime juice. Increasing quantities of the "seedless" types of grapefruit are now being produced as a result of the Government Citrus Development work, while marked improvements have taken place in the processing and packing of fruit for export. There are now 7 mechanically equipped packing houses in the Island, compared with 2 in 1935.

108. The Jamaica Citrus Producers Association was unable to surmount its difficulties though it continued in operation. It became necessary for the Government to take over the Packing House, formerly leased at a nominal rental to the Association. Legislative Council approved of the payment of a sum of £2,600 to the Association in respect of additions to the Packing House and equipment which had been made at the Association's expense, and to defray a part of the expenditure which had been incurred by the Association for the benefit of the industry as a whole.

109. The Packing House was operated by the Department of Science and Agriculture with effect from the 1st June.

Pimento.

110. Pimento production continued to be affected by the Rust Disease which has caused a practical cessation of output in the higher altitude districts, particularly in South Manchester. A careful study of the disease has indicated that it can only seriously affect trees where conditions of temperature and humidity are favourable to its development, and that as a general rule it will be confined to higher altitude districts, particularly those above 1,000 feet. Apart from localized outbreaks under exceptional weather conditions it is unlikely to affect pimento growing in the lower districts. No method of control which is sufficiently cheap to permit of economical application is available.

111. Exports of Pimento for 1936 were 5,888,425 lbs., valued at £140,858, compared with 8,047,863 lbs., valued at £80,725 in 1935. Exports for 1936 were less than half of those for 1934, but the value was almost 50% higher.

112. The production of Pimento Leaf Oil by distillation, which almost ceased for a time, was recommenced towards the end of the year, when three stills were in operation in South Manchester. The price paid for leaves was 1/3d. per 100 lbs., delivered to the still, which gives a return for each tree considerably in excess of the annual value of the crop of berries.

Honey.

113 There was a decrease in the quantity of exports but an increase in value compared with 1935, the figures being 1,630,671 lbs. valued at £15,155 in 1936, compared with 1,872,400 lbs., valued at £13,585 in 1935.

114. The outbreak of Foul Brood Disease of Bees mentioned in the previous report was brought completely under control during the year.

Digitized by Google

Coconuts.

115. The production of coconuts was to some extent affected by the storms of 1935. Markets for whole nuts were poor during the earlier months of 1936, but prices and demand improved markedly in the latter half of the year. The general position of the industry showed improvement, and local prices for copra supplied to oil and soap factories rose in sympathy with the advance in overseas market values. Competition for the local edible oil market amongst the factories led to a renewal of the pool agreement for a period ending on 31st March, 1937, by which time it is hoped that some more permanent method of regulating the industry may be introduced.

116. The Jamaica Cocoanut Producers' Association, Limited, experienced a satisfactory year. The acquisition of a soap factory, which was transferred to new buildings on the same site as their oil factory, has ensured a permanent outlet for crude coconut oil surplus to the Association's market for edible oil.

117. Exports of whole nuts totalled 31,406,479, valued at £76,276, compared with 37,256,680, valued at £91,187 in 1935. Exports of copra were negligible. In the absence of a system for the collection and recording of agricultural and industrial statistics, it is not possible to give more than a general indication of the industry as a whole. The internal demand for edible oil is now almost entirely met by the locally produced coconut oil, and the manufacture of laundry soap containing coconut oil supplies nearly one half of the Island consumption.

118. Apart from these large-scale industrial uses of coconuts and coconut products, there is a considerable production of oil by families, who extract coconut oil by a simple process in their houses, and a high consumption of "water coconuts," for drinking purposes, particularly in the larger centres of population.

119. Control work on the Bud Rot of Coconuts was continued in St. James and Hanover. Plantations in other parts of the Colony are in healthy and productive condition.

Ginger.

120. Exports again showed an increase from 2,879,017 lbs. valued at £69,938 in 1935 to 3,420,772 lbs. valued at £72,636 in 1936.

Cocoa.

121. The continued low prices which remained current until May led to neglect, and in some cases, destruction of trees, but the marked increase in price in export markets which occurred during the latter months of the year stimulated interest in the crop. Exports fell to 3,640,405 lbs. which was 72% of the quantity exported in 1935. The value, however, was practically the same, being £49,684 compared with £50,111 in 1935.

Coffee.

122. This showed a substantial increase in quantity from 7,593,697 lbs. in 1935 to 10,396,688 lbs. in 1936 valued at £160,980, some £5,500 higher than the value of exports for the previous year. Considerable interest was displayed in the marketing of coffee during the early part of the year and enquiries made in regard to both Blue Mountain grades and lowland coffees led to a better understanding of the position and will, it is hoped, result in improvements in conditions under which the latter is produced.

Digitized by Google

Miscellaneous.

123. Exports of Logwood and Logwood Extracts were somewhat lower than in 1935. The value of exports of other products increased from £106,347 in 1935 to £132,075 in 1936. This is partly accounted for by exports of minor fruits and vegetables such as mangoes, limes, capsicums, potatoes, eggplants, and other vegetables, the production of which is being encouraged. The Department of Agriculture, through the activities of the Low Temperature Station, exported 16,281 packages of miscellaneous fruits and vegetables, principally to the United Kingdom and Canada. Special efforts were made to improve the marketing of limes, of which considerable quantities were shipped to England for the first time. 13,681 packages of limes valued at £7,358 were exported during 1936, compared with 3,317 packages valued at £2,284 in 1935.

The exports of Lime Juice decreased, while those of Grapefruit increased considerably, the total quantity of the two kinds together amounting to 48,645 gallons in 1936, compared with 47,119 gallons in 1935.

Exports of Kola Nuts doubled in quantity and almost trebled in price, amounting to 482,157 lbs. valued at £2,732 in 1936.

Annatto decreased in quantity by 5½% but increased in value by 3% compared with 1935. The exports in 1936 were 862,973 lbs. valued at £9,535.

Essential Oils increased in quantity and value by approximately 50%.

124. The production of potatoes for export has been the subject of enquiry for some time. In 1935 a Canadian Company conducted large scale field trials in Manchester with a view to determining the possibility of establishing commercial scale production in Jamaica. In 1936 this Company (The Jamaica Development Company) acquired land in St. Ann on which planting operations were commenced later in the year. Some 200 acres were put under crop and exports commenced early in 1937.

Cattle and Beef Industries.

125. The total number of cattle slaughtered for human consumption as disclosed by official returns, was 34,584 head; an increase of 1 over the previous year. The parishes of Kingston and St. Andrew accounted for 11,689 head in 1936, or 81 less than in 1935. There has been a slight improvement in the market price for beef cattle. Plans have been received for the proposed new Slaughter House to be erected in Kingston on which it is hoped that work will be commenced shortly. Provision is to be included for the preparation of by-products and investigations have been instituted on the possibility of establishing a Beef Cannery.

Hides and Skins.

126. There was a considerable increase in exports of Hides and Skins both in quantity and value. Hides of cattle exported in 1936 amounted to 21,547 valued at £11,322, compared with 20,405, valued at £9,458 in the previous year, while Goatskins increased by 22% to 231,551 valued at £20,811 in 1936, compared with a value of £14,398 in 1935.

127. Considerable interest continues to be displayed in the Dairy Industry and an enquiry into the prospects of establishing butter

Digitized by Google

production on a larger scale has resulted in a scheme for the erection of a Central Butter Factory, to which consideration is now being given.

Agricultural Development Board.

128. The Agricultural Development Board, set up in 1935, recommended the introduction of a Tobacco Development Scheme, which received the approval of the Legislative Council and the Secretary of State, and was put into effect during the year. The Tobacco Specialist assumed duty in July. Three experimental demonstration centres were established, and small scale field trials in promising districts. Financial assistance under The Agricultural Loans Law, 1887, was afforded to 19 growers having a total area of 119 acres for the growing of tobacco under contract. A Tobacco grading fermenting and packing Station was erected to deal with the export crop both from contracted growers and from independent growers who desire to market their crop through the Station.

129. Several varieties of tobacco, both local and imported, have been the subject of field trials, and good types of wrapper, binder and filler leaf have been produced. A large quantity of seed has been obtained from selected plants for distribution to growers during next season. Regulations governing the grades, qualities and method of packing of export tobacco have been introduced under The Agricultural Produce Law, 1926.

Agricultural Education.

130. The Government Farm School had an average attendance of 50 students—an increase of 4 over the previous year—14 students completed the three-year Course and received Diplomas at the Annual Graduation in July. The employment of students after they have undergone training at the Farm School has shown considerable improvement. There are now 24 ex-students employed by the Department of Agriculture and 7 by the Jamaica Agricultural Society, while the demand for these young men by other organisations and by the general planting community is a pleasing indication of the esteem in which the School is held.

131. It is satisfactory to record the increased interest taken in the institution by members of the Public who attend the various annual functions held at the School.

132. The first Practical Training Centre for boys at Holmwood is now well established and some 40 boys are receiving instruction in agriculture and in various useful trades. The general scheme of instruction has been given an agricultural bias and the 40 boys who attend the school appear to take a very keen interest in their work. The centre was opened early in the year and excellent progress has been made with the cultivation of the land. Coffee, citrus, bananas, potatoes and other crops are being grown, while attention is also paid to livestock. A valuable feature of the school is the care which is being devoted to land utilisation and crop husbandry with a view to avoiding such undesirable practices as the burning of bush when land is being cleared, and the waste of organic matter which can be used as mulch.

133. The annual Summer Course of Lectures and Demonstrations was held at Hope in July and was well attended by the general public, as well as by the field staffs of the Department of Agriculture and the Agricultural Society.

Digitized by Google

134. Articles on the subjects of agricultural importance were contributed regularly by members of the staff of the Department of Agriculture for publication in the Journal of the Agricultural Society. Three departmental bulletins on Dairying, Insecticides and the yields of sugar cane in 1934-35, were published during the year.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

135. The past year has proved a difficult one in many ways and revenue collections have been erratic. With the recovery of Bananas, the close of the year showed promise of improvement but for the most part there was little money in circulation and trade was very dull.

136. The lack of purchasing power was reflected in the falling off in the revenue derived from Rum Excise Duties.

137. The value of the Import Trade during 1936 is practically the same as the value of the Import Trade during 1935. Trade from Hong Kong shows a marked increase from a value of £58,000 in 1935 to £132,000 in 1936. One item showing a marked increase is Boots and Shoes the importations for 1936 being 143,661 dozen pairs against 75,873 dozen pairs for 1935. While this increase is 84% the increase in value is only about 35% showing that the shoes are of very cheap quality. Imports of fuel oil increased from 90,000 tons to 129,000 tons.

138. The value of the Island Export Trade also approximates closely to that of 1935. The United Kingdom takes over 50% of Jamaica's exports and Canada over 25%. Grapefruit, Oranges and Rum show large increases, Pimento and Logwood show diseases.

139. The values of Exports and Imports for years 1932-1936 are shown below:

Value of Exports (F.O.B.)

1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936
£	£	£	£	£
3,271,357	2,745,300	3,219,072	3,838,933	3,807,239

Value of Imports (C.I.F.)

1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936
£	£	£	£	£
4,754,152	4,367,843	4,777,069	5,009,906	4 923,931

Imports.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936
British Empire ...	70.0%	69.1%	71.6%	73.1%
Other Countries ...	30.0%	30.9%	28.4%	26.9%

Digitized by Google

Exports (Domestic).

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936
British Empire ...	85.0%	85.9%	85.6%	85.7%
Other Countries ...	15.0%	14.1%	14.4%	14.3%

The following table shows the change in direction of Trade, with the principal countries during the past four years:—

Imports.

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
United Kingdom ...	40.2	39.2	40.3	39.6
U.S.A.	16.3	18.3	18.1	16.4
Canada	16.0	15.9	16.3	16.0
Other Countries ...	27.5	26.6	25.3	28.0

Exports.

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
United Kingdom ...	56.3	55.0	56.3	55.0
U.S.A.	9.4	9.2	8.9	7.0
Canada	27.8	29.6	28.1	29.5
Other Countries ...	6.5	6.2	6.7	8.5

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

	Principal Articles Imported.	Unit of Quantity.	1936. United Kingdom. Quantity.	Value (C.I.F.)	Quantity.
	Total Imports (not including Parcels Post) ..	..	..	£ 1,876,971	..
Food, Drink and Tobacco.	Beer, Ale, Stout and Porter ..	gals.	71,185	19,355	947
	Butter ..	lbs.	11,021	220	27,867
	Butter Substitutes ..	"	717,786	13,745	..
	Fish—Dried Salted ..	"	112,019	1,049	5,640,332
	Pickled ..	"	..	..	8,326,930
	Grain—Flour, Wheaten and Rye ..	bags 196 lbs	66,164	55,772	269,011
	Meats—Beef, Wet Salted ..	lbs.	971,682	16,119	..
	Ham ..	"	68,158	4,251	46,259
	Pork, Wet Salted ..	"	1,000	16	244,100
	Milk, Condensed ..	"	4,265,476	64,723	168,399
	Oils, Edible ..	gals.	1,692	1,462	11
	Tobacco, Cigarettes ..	lbs.	33,023	12,403	26
Articles Mainly Unmanufactured.	Coal ..	tons	174,849	176,502	..
	Lumber, Pitch Pine, White Pine, Douglas Fir ..	ft.	..	..	1,210,718
Articles Mainly Manufactured.	Apparel (not specially classified) ..	..	..	33,847	..
	Boots and Shoes ..	dz. prs.	33,478	92,490	7,828
	Carriages, Motor Cars ..	No.	269	32,580	498
	Parts of (including Tyres and Tubes) ..	..	..	13,606	..
	Cement ..	brls.	84,824	37,518	2,671
	Cotton—Piece Goods ..	yds.	20,291,288	328,857	7,832
	Other Manufactures ..	..	..	41,359	..
	Hardware ..	..	..	77,976	..
	Medicines and Drugs ..	..	..	27,540	..
	Metals—Irons galvanized, steel bars and sheets nails, screws and rivets ..	..	..	..	..
	Oils: Illuminating (Kerosene) ..	gals.	400	39,888	..
	" Motor Spirits ..	"	37	17	..
	Silk Manufactures ..	..	..	21	..
	Soap, Laundry ..	lbs.	3,763,746	42,538	..
	Wool Manufactures ..	..	..	41,169	50
			..	42,156	..

Digitized by Google

1936.

Canada.	U. S. A.		Other Countries		Total.	
Value (C.I.F.)	Quantity.	Value (C.I.F.)	Quantity.	Value (C.I.F.)	Quantity.	Value (C.I.F.)
£		£		£		£
804,394	..	833,875	..	1,408,691	..	4,923,931
198	1,090	193	5,635	1,180	78,867	20,926
1,723	337	25	1,060,404	45,082	1,099,629	47,050
..	24	1	..	..	717,810	13,746
54,144	17,825	837	11,440,237	114,960	17,210,413	170,990
56,502	200	1	62,700	632	8,389,830	57,135
254,761	1,141	1,758	91,460	77,767	427,776	390,058
..	200	3	20,440	332	992,322	16,454
2,386	84,271	4,723	122,046	5,762	320,734	17,122
5,437	338,013	8,203	30,391	673	613,504	14,329
3,092	365,881	5,574	3,194,364	38,408	7,994,120	111,797
12	324	109	707	247	2,724	1,830
9	3,700	970	4	4	36,753	13,386
..	..	..	..	..	174,849	176,502
8,775	11,544,888	86,909	1,896,542	14,470	14,652,148	110,154
17,561	..	6,627	..	72,512	..	130,547
25,280	64	195	102,291	62,471	143,661	180,436
75,434	271	39,161	4	419	1,042	147,594
29,913	..	20,038	..	242	..	63,799
1,170	42	62	43,349	14,587	130,886	53,337
338	4,013,684	52,606	312,969	5,271	24,623,773	387,072
2,606	..	4,803	..	19,407	..	68,175
11,086	..	33,279	..	28,849	..	151,190
7,680	..	25,956	..	5,310	..	66,486
4,038	..	3,232	..	7,082	..	54,240
..	685,373	23,429	1,007,277	30,142	1,693,050	53,588
..	121,993	4,426	6,338,828	121,006	6,460,858	125,453
13,147	..	14,412	..	49,412	..	119,509
..	151,752	1,774	5,404	55	3,920,952	42,998
125	..	251	..	4,899	..	47,431

Digitized by Google

Principal Articles Exported.	Unit of Quantity	1936.									
		United Kingdom.		Canada.		U. S. A.		Other Countries.		Total.	
		Quantity.	Value. (F.O.B.)	Quantity.	Value (F.O.B.)	Quantity.	Value (F.O.B.)	Quantity.	Value (F.O.B.)	Quantity.	Value (F.O.B.)
			£		£		£		£		£
Total Exports (not including Parcels Post) ..	..	..	2,000,077		1,093,408	..	264,919	..	325,162	..	3,683,566
Cocoa, Raw ..	lbs.	2,740	49	3,602,455	49,157	..	..	35,210	478	3,640,405	49,684
Coffee, Raw ..	"	293,178	6,432	8,165,520	126,191	1,876,446	26,970	61,544	1,387	10,396,688	160,980
Fruits and Nuts: Bananas	stems	15,437,384	1,529,396	2,458,375	289,360	33,295	3,971	833,740	88,878	18,762,794	1,911,605
Grapefruit	No.	16,115,454	62,956	1,222,600	4,228	294	2	729,478	2,579	18,067,826	69,765
Oranges ..	bxs.	156,924	51,344	122,070	41,408	..	..	67,734	27,481	346,728	120,233
Coconuts	No.	1,847,480	4,961	10,290,190	21,902	19,104,205	48,806	164,604	607	31,406,479	76,276
Logwood	tons	1,204	3,155	..	..	2,842	6,723	8,178	20,086	12,224	29,964
Logwood Extracts ..	cwts.	22,465	72,975	..	..	319	1,155	903	3,109	23,687	77,239
Spices—Ginger ..	lbs.	1,146,123	22,792	339,700	6,707	1,632,620	36,036	302,329	7,101	3,420,772	72,636
Pimento ..	"	336,267	7,287	98,373	2,293	2,161,083	51,331	3,292,702	79,947	5,888,425	140,858
Spirits—Rum ..	galls.	426,230	91,471	28,189	12,108	38,235	37,717	178,681	753,349	671,335	194,645
Sugar: Unrefined ..	tons	12,284	98,202	65,398	533,157	..	..	127	1,092	77,809	632,451

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VIII.

Wages and Cost of Living.

140. The average rate of wages for labourers in Government employ is: Skilled or unskilled, 2/6d. to 3/6d. per day. Private employers pay skilled men from 3/- to 3/6d. per day, and unskilled men from 2/- to 2/6d. per day. Women in private employ get from 1/6d. to 1/8d. per day. Factory workers receive a wage of from 20/- to 25/- per week for a week of 5½ days of 9 hours each, and shop assistants receive a wage of from 50/- to 70/- per week of 5½ days of 8 hours each. Notion store girls receive wages of from 12/- to 20/- per week. Office Clerks (girls) receive from 15/- to 45/- per week. Pressmen receive wages on an average of 40/- per week, Male Compositors 30/- per week, Female Compositors 9/- per week.

141. The only Railway operating in Jamaica is the Jamaica Government Railway, and a schedule of the wages paid by the Department is set out below: —

Rates of Pay.

Head Offices.

Clerks—From 25/- to £5 10/- per week, according to Grade.
Learner Clerks—From 10/- to 25/- per week.

Engineering Branch.

Permanent Way Superintendents	from	£180 to £335	per annum
Draughtsmen	"	£2 10/- to £7 10/-	per week
Learner Draughtsmen	"	£1 to £2 10/-	" "
Foremen	"	50/- to 65/-	" "
Junior Foremen	"	30/- to 50/-	" "
Learner "	"	20/- to 30/-	" "
Carpenters	"	32/- to 40/-	" "
Labourers	"	18/- to 21/-	" "
Gangers	"	24/- to 30/-	" "
Gatemen		11/-	" "

Locomotive Branch.

Foremen	"	80/- to 120/-	" "
Chargemen	"	50/- to 80/-	" "
Machinists, etc., and Air Brake and Rolling Stock Examiners	"	32/- to 70/-	" "
Artisans, Carpenters, etc.	"	32/- to 60/-	" "
Other Artisans	"	32/- to 48/-	" "
Artisans (3) other trades	"	60/- to 80/-	" "
Firemen	"	40/- to 65/-	" "
Engine Drivers	"	80/- to 120/-	" "
Carpenters, including Saw Mill Machinists, Truck Fitters, Assistant Truck Fitters and Pattern Makers	"	32/- to 60/-	" "
Painters		48/-	" "
Labourers (Kingston)	"	18/- to 21/-	" "
" (outstations)	"	15/- to 18/-	" "
Greasers	"	32/- to 40/-	" "
Watchmen	"	25/- to 35/-	" "
Shedmen (Day)	"	24/- to 27/-	" "
" (Night)	"	30/- to 33/-	" "
Apprentices	"	8/- to 24/-	" "

Digitized by Google

Traffic Branch.

Trains Controllers	from 85/- to 150/-	per week
Station Master, Kingston ...	" 100/- to 120/-	" "
Other Station Masters ...	" 50/- to 110/-	" "
Station Clerks	" 25/- to 50/-	" "
Goods Clerks	" 15/- to 90/-	" "
1 Booking Clerk	" £175 to £235	per annum
Porters, Kingston	" 18/- to 21/-	per week
" Outstations ...	" 15/- to 18/-	" "
Shunters	" 25/- to 50/-	" "
Guards	" 30/- to 70/-	" "
Brakesmen	" 21/- to 35/-	" "
Wharfinger	" 80/- to 120/-	" "
Assistant Wharfinger	" 45/- to 60/-	" "
Storemen	" 18/- to 25/-	" "
Female Typists	" 35/- to 50/-	" "

Overtime is allowed to the daily paid staff at the rate of time and a quarter for ordinary overtime and Public Holidays, and time and a half for Sunday work.

Drivers and Firemen are given overtime on a specially settled basis.

Station Masters are paid overtime for Sundays and Public Holidays and so are the Assistant and Junior Train Controllers. Parcels Office Clerks and Booking Clerk, Kingston, are paid an extra day's pay for Sunday work.

Clerical workers do not get overtime pay.

142. The following is a list, giving costs of the staple foodstuffs of the labouring class in Jamaica:—

Bread ...	8 ozs. for 2d.
Crackers ...	½d. per dozen
Peas and Beans ...	6d. per quart
Yams ...	2d. per lb.
Cocoanuts ...	1d. each
Sweet Potatoes ...	1d. per lb.
Cocoes ...	1d. per lb.
Plantains ...	1½d. each
Sugar, Brown Albion ...	2½d. per lb.
Flour ...	1¾d. per lb.
Rice ...	1½d. per lb.
Meal ...	1½d. per lb.
Codfish ...	4d. per lb.
Herrings ...	3d. per lb.
Shads ...	3d. per lb.
Mackerels ...	3d. per lb.
Salmon ...	6d. per lb.
Onions ...	2½d. per lb.
Beef, wet salted ...	6d. per lb.
Pork, wet salted ...	9d. per lb.
Cocoanut Oil ...	1/3d. per quart
Milk, Condensed ...	4½d. per tin
Beef, fresh ...	6d. per lb.
Salt, fine ...	1d. per lb.

143. During 1935, a 4 lb. loaf of bread cost 1/4d., and a labourer's pay, therefore, provided he worked for 6 days per week, was equal to 15 loaves in Government employ and from 13 to 15 loaves in private employ.

Digitized by Google

In Jamaica, however, a labourer does not normally consume as much bread as would a labourer in a colder climate. The normal diet of a Jamaica labourer consists of a small quantity of bread and a much larger quantity of yams or sweet potatoes.

144. The cost of living in Jamaica, although it is lower by 8.2 points than for 1935 (being 121.8 as against 130), is still considerably above pre-war level. Taking 100 as the Index Figure for the years 1913 and 1914, the Index Figure for 1935 works out at an average of 121.8, made up as follows:—

Foodstuffs—				
Local Products	...	135.4		
Imported Articles	...	102.5	119	(mean)
Clothing, etc.	...		123.4	
Miscellaneous	...		123.1	
			365.5	
Average	...		121.8	

145. Furnished bungalows cost from £12 to £20 per month in the residential districts of Kingston and St. Andrew, and unfurnished bungalows from £8 to £14 per month. In the country districts, unfurnished bungalows (when obtainable) cost from £6 to £12 per month. These prices are, however, considerably advanced for short lets during the Tourist Season.

CHAPTER IX.

Education and Welfare Institutions.

146. The total Departmental Expenditure on Education for the year 1935-36 was £226,392, an increase of £7,791 on the expenditure for 1934-35.

147. There are four classes of recognized Public Elementary Schools (a) Voluntary Denominational Schools, (b) Voluntary Undenominational Schools, whose only difference from denominational schools, is that the Manager is not necessarily the owner's representative but is appointed to represent the interests of two or more amalgamated schools, (c) Trust Schools owned by the Ludford Trust and treated for most purposes as Government Schools, and (d) Schools administered by a School Board and known as Government Schools. In practice (a) and (b) are styled Voluntary Schools and (c) and (d) Government Schools. On 1st April, 1936, there were 152 schools administered by School Boards, 89 of which are owned by the Government while 63 receive a nominal rent. Compulsory attendance is limited to 14 compulsory areas.

148. The total enrolment for the whole Island is 150,557 with an average attendance of 57%, and the total cost of elementary education exclusive of establishment charges for 1935-36 amounted to £187,309.

149. There are in all 653 grant-aided elementary schools. There is also a large number of elementary private schools for which statistics are not available. A new Government School was opened during the year. Building grants to the value of £3,000 were made in 1936 for the repair of Denominational Schools and Teachers' Quarters. Many buildings remain, however, in a bad state of repair.

Digitized by Google

150. The Primary Schools employ about 1,987 teachers, excluding pupil teachers; nearly 60% of these are trained. There are four training Colleges, one for men, three for women and a small Training Centre for Infant School Teachers.

151. The further education of Elementary School Children is assisted from General Revenue by Scholarships tenable at Secondary Schools for from two to five years. Nine special scholarships of the value of £50 per annum tenable for four years in the first instance are awarded annually to children resident in parishes unprovided with Secondary Schools. In addition every grant-aided Secondary School is required to maintain free places for at least 20% of its numbers. The grant-aided and recognized Secondary Schools, twenty-four in number, are under the care of the Jamaica Schools Commission and grants are recommended in accordance with the Annual Reports submitted by the Supervising Inspector of Secondary Schools.

152. Public assistance for University and Collegiate Education is confined to the expenditure for Scholarships. Provision is made annually from the Government funds for three Scholarships tenable at British Universities, one of which is for girls and one at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad. One Rhodes Scholarship a year is allocated to Jamaica.

153. The accepted External Examinations for the recognized Secondary Schools are those of the Cambridge Syndicate of Local Examinations held at 21 centres. At the last Examinations held (July and December 1936) 607 candidates sat for the Junior Examination of whom 327 passed (53%), 420 for the School Certificate of whom 232 passed (55%) and 18 entered for and 11 passed (61%) the Higher School Certificate Examination in July.

154. In the Examinations of the University of London held in Jamaica during 1936, 57 candidates sat for the Matriculation Examination and 30 passed, including 3 in the First Division. For the Intermediate Arts there were 8 candidates, 3 of whom passed. Three candidates sat for the Intermediate Examination in Laws and all failed, and one in Science who was referred in one subject. One candidate sat for the Intermediate Examination in Economics and passed. In the final examinations one Candidate sat for the B.A. General Examination and passed and one sat for the B.A. Honours and passed obtaining Second Class Honours (Upper Division.)

155. Vocational training for Elementary School Boys is provided in Kingston at two manual training centres and similar training elsewhere at 10 Government Schools. Apart frome some limited instruction in minor handicrafts the majority of the schools have no manual or domestic training.

156. Opportunities for further vocational training are afforded by Trade Scholarships, two Continuation Schools and the Government Technical School, Kingston. Recognized Evening Classes are held only at the Kingston Technical School where they have been reorganized and are shewing much improvement in numbers and efficiency. There are also unaided private Commercial Colleges which give day and evening instruction in literary and commercial subjects.

157. The first Practical Training Centre for Boys, designed to give a sound training in Agriculture and Craftsmanship was opened in March, 1936.

158. Trade Scholarships are awarded to Elementary School Boys who wish to be apprenticed to a Trade or to enter the Government Farm

Digitized by Google

School. Their value is £20 per annum which may be increased where necessary by a maintenance grant of £20 per annum. They are tenable for a maximum period of five years, part of which is usually spent at the Technical School, Kingston.

159. The Carron Hall and Highgate Girls' Continuation Schools, St. Mary, receive Government Grants. Their curriculum includes Literary Subjects, Needlework, Housecraft and Hygiene. These Schools do excellent work especially from the point of view of character training.

160. The Kingston Technical School, with an enrolment of 289 students provides training for girls and boys in Continuation, Commercial, Domestic Science and Technical Subjects. Examinations are held by external examining bodies such as the Royal Society of Arts, and the City and Guilds of London Institute. Special courses for Training College Students and Elementary School Teachers are also included. The continued large enrolment, 350 at present, in the evening classes is evidence of public recognition of their value.

161. There are nine certified Industrial Schools and Orphanages, and four Orphanages uncertified. The Government Industrial School, Stony Hill, is maintained wholly from Government Funds and is under the supervision of the Director of Prisons. The remaining Schools and Orphanages are financed partly by the Parochial Boards, partly by the Government and partly by private funds. Admission to an Industrial School is in most cases by Magistrate's Order. The Lyndale, Swift and Wortley Homes are primarily for East Indian Children. Children may now be detained until 18 years of age in cases where it is shown to be desirable in the interest of the child or the community. The Industrial Schools are as a rule well conducted Institutions but in some instances lack funds to employ a sufficiently trained staff whether for the classroom or for trade instruction.

162. The Government Industrial School, Stony Hill (Boys) is maintained by the Government under the charge of the Inspector of Government Industrial Schools. A Board of Visitors is appointed by the Governor, which arranges visits of inspection and holds bi-monthly Board Meetings. The number on Roll on 31st December 1936 was 366.

163. The School is situated at Stony Hill, at an elevation of 1,360 ft. above sea level, and yet is only 9 miles from Kingston. Apart from the difficulty of obtaining an adequate water supply the site is ideal for the purpose. The buildings though very old, are spacious, well ventilated and cool. The Girls' section was closed during 1936, and the buildings used for younger boys.

164. There is no provision (outside the Public Hospitals) for maintenance in the event of sickness or accident nor for old age outside the Poor Relief Law, nor is there insurance against unemployment. Grants were made in 1935-36 of £1,000 to the Child Welfare Association, £75 to the Boy Scouts' Association and £200 to the Salvation Army School for the Blind. With the exception of the last named Institution there is no provision in the Colony for the education of physically defective or mentally retarded children.

165. The Bureau of Health Education was established in 1926 to meet the demands from teachers, sanitary inspectors and citizens for information regarding personal hygiene and the spread and prevention of disease.

166. The main educational work of the Bureau consists in publishing "Jamaica Public Health." This bulletin is used in nearly every school of the Island as a text in hygiene.

167. Suitable literature is provided on the problems which are being

Digitized by Google

dealt with by the Health Departments of the Island. Assistance is given health workers through the provision of moving picture projectors and films, magic lanterns and slides, and material for microscopical demonstrations. Also special leaflets and posters and placards designed for use in schools, at markets and other public places, to give information about the more common diseases are distributed.

168. Dental Clinics are in operation in nine parishes. It is only in the parishes of Portland, Trelawny, St. James, Clarendon and St. Catherine that the cost is now divided between the Government and the Parochial Boards. A Medical Officer for Schools was appointed by the Kingston and St. Andrew Corporation who maintained a systematic medical examination of school children during the year in the parishes of Kingston and St. Andrew.

169. The Institute of Jamaica for the encouragement of Literature, Science and Art—(with its Library of 39,215 books, 1,715 manuscripts and 747 maps and plans—being 27,447 books in the General Library and 9,306 in the West India Reference Library, including Pamphlets and Newspapers)—distributed 58,678 books amongst its members during 1936, in addition to which many members of the public, including visitors and tourists from England, Canada and the United States, consulted works in the General Library and the West India Reference Library. In the latter there was one professor, three authors and six students doing work on West Indian subjects.

170. Boxes of books were loaned to some of the Branch Libraries and Teachers' Library Association during the year. Some new sets have been prepared for loan to these Societies.

171. Four Art Exhibitions were held during the year. Two Silver Musgrave Medals were awarded at the end of the year—one to Mr Astley Clerk, for his efforts for the development of Music and to maintain interest in the Folklore of Jamaica, and another to Mr. J. F. Brennan, for his work on the Meteorology of Jamaica.

172. Many parties of school children visited the Institute during the year.

173. The History Gallery has proved a great attraction not only to visitors from abroad, but also to intelligent visitors from the country parts interested in the history of the Island, acting as it does to illustrate the books in the West India Reference Library.

174. During the year the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, London, held its twenty-ninth Annual Examination of candidates in Pianoforte, Violin, Viola and Singing. There were 931 entries for the Practical and Theoretical Examinations. As a result of the examinations, 857 certificates were awarded.

175. The Musical Society of Jamaica held one meeting during the year.

176. Under the Jamaica Boy Scouts Association there are at present 155 Groups actually at work. These groups comprise 140 Scout Troops. 55 Wolf Cub Packs and 44 Rover Crews, numbering 350 Scouters, 2,130 Scouts, 61 Sea Scouts, 705 Cubs, 292 Rover Scouts, 121 Rover Sea Scouts—a total of 3,659. This shews an increase of 212 over 1935 when the total was 3,447.

177. His Excellency Sir Edward Denham, is Chief Scout of Jamaica.

178. Under the Girl Guides Local Association there are now 144 Companies at work, including 290 Rangers, 1,974 Guides and 536 Brownies—a total of 2,800.

179. The President is Lady Denham, and Mrs. D. O. Kelly-Lawson is Island Commissioner.

Digitized by Google

180. Cricket is played during the season all over the Island, and at all Secondary Schools and at the majority of Elementary Schools. The Jamaica Cricket Association was formed in 1925, and all the principal clubs in the Island are affiliated to it. It is governed by a Board of Control. Senior and Junior Competitions are held throughout the Colony, and these conjoined with the visits paid by first class teams from the Mother Country and by West Indian teams to England and Australia, have resulted in great strides being made in the game, both as regards keenness and actual play.

181. Association football is also keenly followed from October to February, inclusive. The Competitions under the Jamaica Football Association number eight, including two for Secondary School boys, and the game has now achieved great popularity throughout the Island.

182. Lawn Tennis is played all the year round and is fostered by various Competitions under the Jamaica Lawn Tennis Association which is affiliated to the Lawn Tennis Association of England.

183. As in the case of cricket, the visits of well-known stars have done much to raise the standard of the game throughout the Island.

184. School Sports are held in connection with all Secondary and many Elementary Schools, and Inter-scholastic Competitions are arranged for annually.

CHAPTER X.

Communications and Transport.

185. The following statement shows the volume of shipping during the past five years:—

1932	entered	1,355	vessels	of	3,508,696	net	tons
1933	"	1,304	"	"	3,698,330	"	"
1934	"	1,326	"	"	3,844,127	"	"
1935	"	1,457	"	"	4,268,701	"	"
1936	"	1,464	"	"	4,520,788	"	"
1932	cleared	1,291	"	"	3,440,374	"	"
1933	"	1,291	"	"	3,718,880	"	"
1934	"	1,291	"	"	3,812,128	"	"
1935	"	1,406	"	"	4,225,513	"	"
1936	"	1,453	"	"	4,524,460	"	"

186. The following regular Steamship Lines serve the Colony:—

British Register.—Cunard Steamship Company, Blue Star Line, New Zealand Shipping Company, Anchor Line, Royal Mail Lines, Blue Funnel Lines, Elders & Fyffes, Harrison Line, Pickford & Black, Jamaica Direct Fruit Line, Canadian National Steamships, Pacific Steam Navigation Company, James Nours & Company, Canadian Pacific R.R.S. Company, Standard Fruit & Steamship Company, Shaw, Saville & Albion, Webster Steamship Line, (the last named Company is registered in Jamaica). Although Elders & Fyffes is a British Registered Company, the firm is in fact controlled by the United Fruit Co., an American Corporation which owns the bulk of their capital.

U.S.A.—The Clyde Mallor, The Grace Line, The United States Lines, The American Pioneer Line, The Eastern S.S. Company, The United Fruit Company, The Standard Fruit & Steamship Company, The Colombian Steam Company, The Aluminum Line, The Gulf Pacific Line.

Digitized by Google

Dutch.—The Royal Netherlands Steamship Co., Holland-American Line.

German.—The Horn Steamship Co., the Hamburg-American and the North German Lloyd.

French.—French Line.

Italian.—Italian Line.

Swedish.—Swedish-American.

Poland—Gydnia Line.

Also an Air Line by the Pan-American Airways, Inc.

187. No ships were built in Jamaica during the year.

(a) ROADS.

188. The Island possesses a good system of Macadam Roads which are divided into two classes:—

(a) Main Roads of a total length of 2,479 miles, which are maintained out of General Revenue of the Colony.

(b) Parochial Roads aggregating 4,409 miles of which 2,108 miles are suitable for light motor traffic, and 2,301 miles are unsuitable, being cart or bridle roads. They are maintained by Parochial Boards out of their own funds.

189. During 1936 the main roads were maintained at an average cost of £102 per mile. Many miles of these roads were originally constructed of limestone surfacing without any proper foundation, and are therefore suitable only for light wheeled traffic. This type of construction is inadequate to meet the ever-increasing requirements of modern motor traffic. Legislation prohibiting importation and use of motor vehicles weighing more than two and a half tons unladen, without special permission, has been enacted.

190. The Transport Commission appointed to consider measures to be adopted for the better regulation and control of road traffic in Jamaica, and to report specifically on Speed Limit, Fees for Licenses, Compulsory Third Party Insurance, for all mechanically propelled vehicles, have submitted their recommendations which are now receiving attention.

191. The existing roads are gradually being improved so as to enable them to carry such motor traffic.

192. Up to the end of the year under review, the mileage of asphalt treated roads amounted to 241 miles 69 chains.

193. Heavy flood rainfall during the months of May and June, 1936, caused considerable damage to roads and contingent works; the parishes most affected being St. Andrew, Manchester, Clarendon and St. Catherine. All roads, however, were opened to traffic with little delay, and restoration works will be completed before 31st March, 1937.

194. The programme of Road Construction works, authorized under the First Instalment of the Public Works Loan Law 22 of 1935, commenced in 1936 is nearing completion; and it is hoped that the programme undertaken will be finished by 31st March, 1937.

195. A start on the asphalting of Main Arterial Roads, included in the above programme, has been made, which while greatly improving such roads, will effect a saving on the cost of Roads Maintenance and increase the comfort of the travelling public.

196. The programme of works to be pursued under the Second Instalment of the above mentioned Loan Law has been approved of by the Legislature, and continuation of the Road Programme is included therein.

197. Surveys with respect to roads to be constructed under this

Digitized by Google

instalment are now being carried out, and it is hoped that actual work will commence early in the new financial year.

198. Under Public Works Extraordinary, a number of weak bridges were reconstructed and improvements carried out to certain existing main roads.

199. The mean rainfall for the Island was 86.20 inches, or 12.33 inches above the 60 year average.

The mean number of rainy days was 135, the average being 122.

(b) CANALS.

200. There are no navigable Canals in the Island.

Motor Omnibus.

201. Motor Omnibus services in the Island continue to play their part in the development of the communities served, and are proving more popular from year to year.

202. In Kingston and Lower St. Andrew there has been an increase in the number of omnibuses licensed to ply for hire, and in the number of routes approved. There is also a marked improvement in the type of bus being used. There are 63 omnibuses operating over 15 routes totalling 78 miles. There has been no increase this year in the number of omnibuses operating between the City and outlying country districts. The number remains at 84 omnibuses which cover several hundreds of miles of route.

JAMAICA GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

203. The Jamaica Government Railway (main and branch lines is 210½ miles in length. It traverses the Island by two main lines:—

(a) Kingston to Montego Bay—112¾ miles.

(b) Spanish Town (11¾ miles from Kingston) to Port Antonio—63¼ miles.

There are branch lines as follows:—

(1) From May Pen Junction (32¼ miles from Kingston) to Frankfield —23 miles.

(2) From Bog Walk (20½ miles from Kingston on the Port Antonio line) to Ewarton—8½ miles.

(3) From Linstead (3½ miles from Bog Walk on the Ewarton Branch Line) to New Works—3 miles. No passenger trains are run over this Branch.

204. The main lines run across high mountains which form the backbone of the Island, to the north coast Port Antonio being north-east; and Montego Bay north-west of Kingston. The Frankfield and Ewarton lines traverse rich agricultural districts near the centre of the Island. the gauge is 4 ft. 8½ ins. The maximum gradients are 1 in 30, and the maximum curves 5 chains. The highest point of the Railway is Greenvale on the Montego Bay Line, 1,705 feet above sea level. The highest point on the Port Antonio Line is between Richmond and Troja, at 31 miles—905 feet.

205. The Revenue for the year ended 31st December, 1936, was £249,833 1s. 11d., and the expenditure, £266,621 7s. 9d. There is no depreciation fund. but provision is made in the Annual Estimates for Renewals, Depreciation and Betterment. The total weight of goods carried during the year under review was 275,363 tons, as compared with 231,254 tons for the year 1935: the number of passengers carried in 1936 was 381,960, as compared with 443,969 in 1935.

206. The Management of the Railway is assisted by an Advisory Board of eight members, consisting of the Director and seven others,

Digitized by Google

chiefly local business men, who advise the Government on matters of policy.

207. Since 1925, the work of relaying old 60 lb. rails with 80 lb. rails, has been proceeding. 133 miles of 60 lb. rails were in existence. In 1925, 5 miles were relaid, in 1926, 5 miles. In 1927 the sum of £200,000 was voted so that the relaying could be carried out more expeditiously, and under Law 20 of 1930, a further sum of £32,500 was voted. From 1927 to the end of 1936 the total mileage which has been changed from 60 lb. to 80 lb. rails, is 102 miles. During 1936 short lengths of worn 80 lb. rails were renewed, totalling 1 mile.

Passenger Traffic.

208. The passenger traffic during this period shows a decrease largely due to motor competition. A new time-table is being prepared and will shortly be put into operation which will result in the speeding up of the train service, and, it is hoped, in increased numbers of passengers travelling by rail.

General Merchandise Traffic.

209. There has been a decrease under this head in tonnage and revenue, which is due to road motor competition.

Banana Traffic.

210. There has been a decrease under this head in tonnage and in revenue, which is due to the severe set-back to the banana industry caused by abnormal climatic conditions during September and October, 1935. The figures for the last three months, however, reveal a steady recovery, and this improvement should continue.

POSTAL.

211. *Inland.*—There are 294 Post Offices in Jamaica—an average of one office to each 38.9 square kilometers—of which 120 are branches of the Government Savings Bank.

Of these, 231 have one daily exchange of mails with Kingston, 40 have two exchanges; 14 have three; and 4 have four exchanges, while 5 offices exchange 9 mails weekly with Kingston.

The inland mail services are performed by Jamaica Government Railway, private contractors, Public Works Department, and Jamaica Public Service Co., and the daily mileage covered is as follows:—

	Miles.
By Jamaica Government Railway	756¼
By motor vans (contractors)	1,056
By animal drawn carts	189
By foot-couriers	1,601
By tram car	66
By sea	12
	3,680¼

212. *Overseas.*—1. Mail communications are maintained by steamers of Elders and Fyffes, Limited, Standard Fruit and Steamship Co., Shaw Sevill Line with Great Britain; United Fruit Company and Colombian Line with United States of America, Central America and Cuba; Canadian National Steamships with Canada and Central America; Pickford and Black with Canada; Aluminum Line with the British West India Islands; Jamaica Banana Company with Holland;

Digitized by Google

Cayman Island Motor Boat Company with the Cayman Islands; and by various cruise steamers.

213. Pan-American Airways, Inc., link Jamaica with the United States of America, Canada, Central and South America, Mexico and the West Indies.

214. The following are the operating schedules:—

Southbound.—A mail-carrying air plane flies from Miami, U.S.A. (via Havana, Cuba) every Tuesday and Saturday at 8.00 a.m., arrives at Kingston on the same days, at 1.45 p.m., and flies to Barranquilla, Colombia, on same days at 2.15 p.m., arriving at 5.43 p.m.

Northbound.—A plane flies from Baranquilla every Sunday and Wednesday at 7.00 a.m., arrives at Kingston on the same days, 10.00 a.m., and flies to Miami (via Havana) on same days, 10.45 a.m., arriving at 4.52 p.m.

East and Westbound.—A plane flies from Kingston every Thursday at 8.15 a.m. for Port-au-Prince, Haiti, arriving at 1.44 p.m. on same day. Return plane flies from Port-au-Prince, at noon on Tuesday, and arrives at Kingston at 4.50 p.m. on same day.

215. The Trans-Pacific air service from San Francisco to Manila, P.I., provides an 11-13-day service from Jamaica to Hong Kong and China; and the Trans-Atlantic steamship service performed by the steamers Normandie, Bremen, Europa and Queen Mary provides an 8-day air mail service from Kingston to British or French port.

Postal Telegraph and Telephone Service.

216. The Government Postal and Telegraph System was inaugurated in 1879 with a complement of 47 offices. At the close of the calendar year 1936, there were 1,878 miles of Telegraph and Telephone lines with 60 Telegraph and 146 Telephone offices. Two telephone offices were opened during the year and one closed.

217. The charge for Inland telegrams is 9d. for the first twelve words and a half-penny for each additional word. Press telegrams are granted a special rate of approximately half the above charges. An all-night and holiday Telegram Service is provided on payment of graduated fees. An optional service of telegrams conveying Christmas and New Year greetings inaugurated in 1934 was continued in 1936. The charge was sixpence for the first twelve words and a half-penny for each additional word. 3,664 such telegrams were sent.

218. The Jamaica Government Railway Telegraphic Service in connection with which there are 45 offices, assist in placing telegraphic communication within the reach of all. These offices work in collobora-tion with the Postal and Telegraph System but are controlled by the Management of the Railway.

219. In 1935, 382,122 telegrams were despatched, and the revenue amounted to £18,616 19s. 6½d. In 1936, 371,410 and £15,549 18s. 8½d., respectively.

220. Overseas cables are handled in both directions, i.e., out-going and in-coming by the Department, which collected £3,916 10s. 0d. for Cable Tolls for delivery to the Cable Company.

Submarine Cables.—The Cable Companies were amalgamated in 1936 under the title "The West India and Panama Telegraph Company" which remains a subsidiary of Cable and Wireless, Ltd. Direct circuits are now operated from Kingston by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company's System to Turks Island, Bermuda, Barbados and Halifax, N.S. At Halifax, semi automatic retransmis-sion is provided to Montreal and London providing a virtually direct

Digitized by Google

circuit to both places. The West India and Panama System also provides direct circuits to Santiago, Cuba, Havana, Cuba, and New York City, also to San Juan and Ponce, Porto Rico.

221. The rates generally have remained unaltered, but through the West India and Panama Telegraph Company's Association with Cable and Wireless, Ltd., there has been a marked increase in facilities through their co-operation and vast network of Cable and Wireless Systems under their control.

Wireless.

222. During 1935 a new station was built at Halfway Tree to accommodate the Radio Telephone receivers and Terminal Equipment. The receivers for all services are now located at the Halfway Tree Station and the transmitters at Stony Hill. An overseas telephone service was opened to the public during 1936, the connection being through Miami, Florida. This service may be extended to Europe in 1937.

Ship Shore Service.

223. Continuous watch is maintained for ships, and traffic is exchanged on medium and short waves on schedule providing a means of communication up to distances of 2,000 miles or more.

Broadcasting.

224. No broadcasting stations exist on the Island. At present 3,828 broadcasting receiving licenses have been issued up to date, and 33 experimental transmitting licenses are in existence. Numerous wireless receiving sets have been established (under Government license) throughout the Island by persons desirous of receiving programmes broadcast by the Empire, America, and other broadcasting stations.

CHAPTER XI.

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures.

225. The Commercial Banks doing business in Jamaica are: Barclays Bank, Dominion Colonial and Overseas (formerly the Colonial Bank), The Bank of Nova Scotia, The Royal Bank of Canada, and the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

226. The value of the local notes of each Bank outstanding at 31st December, 1936, was as follows:—

Barclays Bank—Dominion Colonial and Overseas (formerly The Colonial Bank)	£98,035
Bank of Nova Scotia	£131,535
Royal Bank of Canada	£46,067
Canadian Bank of Commerce	£14,000

227. The Banks all have their principal offices for the Island in Kingston.

Barclays Bank has branches at Annotto Bay, Falmouth, Lucea, Montego Bay, Morant Bay, Port Antonio, Port Maria, Savanna-la-Mar, and St. Ann's Bay.

The Bank of Nova Scotia has branches at Black River, Christiana, Brown's Town, Mandeville, May Pen, Montego Bay, Morant Bay, Port Antonio, Port Maria, St. Ann's Bay, Savanna-la-Mar, and Spanish Town.

Digitized by Google

The Royal Bank of Canada has one branch at Montego Bay.
The Canadian Bank of Commerce has no branches.

228. The following are legal tender in Jamaica:—
British Gold and Silver coins, local nickel coins, Government currency notes.
Accounts are kept in sterling.

229. Government Currency Notes which are legal tender under Section 5 of Law 27 of 1904, were in circulation on the 31st December, 1936, to the extent of £97,934 2s. 6d. in the following denominations:

2/6d. Notes.	5/- Notes.	10/- Notes.
£112 7s. 6d.	£42,862 15s. 0d.	£54,959 0s. 0d.

230. Jamaica has its own subsidiary (nickel) coinage of 1d., ½d., and ¼d. denominations.

CHAPTER XII.

Public Works.

231. In addition to the construction of New Roads and Bridges, an account of which appears under Chapter X, the principal activities of the year were:—

Public Works Extraordinary.

(1) Court House at Gayle, Repairs and Purchase of Site.
(2) General Penitentiary—Special Repairs.
(3) St. Catherine District Prison—Special Repairs No. 1 Block and Cells.
(4) Mental Hospital—Additional Accommodation.
(5) do Special Repairs.
(6) Public General Hospital, Sav.-la-Mar, Improvements.
(7) Maternity Wards Hospitals.
(8) Kings House Repairs.
(9) Technical School, Kingston, Additional accommodation, Sanitation and Improvement.
(10) Jamaica College—Repairs and Improvements.

232. The Building Programme authorized under the Public and Municipal Works Loan Law, 17 of 1933 with the exception of Petersfield Post Office, Park Mountain School now under construction, and the reconditioning of the Halfway Tree Court House, has been completed.

233. Exclusive of the Road Programme set out in Chapter X, with respect to Public Works Loan Law 22 of 1935, First Instalment, the following Works also included under this Law are in progress:—
(1) Improvements, Kingston Harbour.
(2) Improvements, Port Antonio Harbour (Surveys).
(3) Irrigation Scheme (Surveys).
(4) Operating Theatre—Public General Hospital, Kingston.
(5) T.B. Ward, Linstead Public General Hospital (completed).
(6) Acquiring and reconditioning 150 East Street for Headquarters Criminal Investigation Department.
(7) Reclamation Swamp Lands (Kingston Pen).

234. The Building for housing the Tourist Trade Bureau, constructed out of funds collected from the Tourist Tax, has been completed and is now occupied.

Digitized by Google

235. The Public Works Department is established for the performance of the duties imposed by Law, or by order of the Governor upon the Director of Public Works, which include the following:—

(a) The making, repairing, deviating, maintaining and managing of all main roads—Law 33 of 1931.

(b) The erection and maintenance of all Public Buildings—Law 16 of 1868.

(c) The care and management of all Lighthouses—Law 8 of 1900.

(d) The laying out, construction and maintenance of all Government Telegraph and Telephone Lines—Law 1 of 1879.

(e) The management and control of the Rio Cobre Irrigation Works—Law 27 of 1872.

(f) The management and control of the Spanish Town Water Works—Law 16 of 1877, and the construction, enlargement, improvement, repair, management and control of any other Water Works at the request of a Parochial Board and Authorized by the Governor—Laws 28 of 1889, and 19 of 1900.

(g) The carrying out of all undertakings, the funds of which are provided by General Revenue or by Loans, and the design and carrying out of all important works, the funds for which are provided by Parochial Revenue or by Loans or Grants to Parochial Boards.

(h) The Director of Public Works is the Chief Adviser of the Government in regard to all matters involving structural work of any kind or the use of machinery, and is charged with the preparation of studies, designs, specification and estimates for all such undertakings, and for the construction of the works when authorized.

(i) The Director of Public Works has statutory powers under the Electric Lighting Law, The Telephone Law, the Tramways Law, and the Motor Vehicle Law. He is the Tribunal of Appeal under the Kingston Building Law, (24 of 1907) and is ex-officio a Trustee of the Titchfield Property, a member of the Board of Management of the Milk River Baths (Law 30 of 1927) and Chairman of the Board of Transport (Law 30 of 1929).

CHAPTER XIII.

Justice and Police.

236. The Courts of the Island are as follows:—

1. The Supreme Court.
2. The Resident Magistrate's Court.
3. The Petty Sessions Court.
4. The Coroner's Court.

The Supreme Court consists of the following:—

The Supreme Court with jurisdiction in civil matters over £100.

The Circuit Court with jurisdiction in indictable offences beyond the jurisdiction of Resident Magistrates. Appeals from Petty Sessions are also heard by the Judge of the Circuit Court.

The Court of Appeal which hears appeals from the Supreme Court (civil and criminal) the Resident Magistrate's Court (civil and criminal) also appeals from the Cayman Islands in civil and criminal matters and from the Turks and Caicos Islands in criminal matters only.

Digitized by Google

237. There are four Judges of the Supreme Court, namely, a Chief Justice, a Judge of the Court of Appeal and two Puisne Judges.

238. The Resident Magistrate's Court has jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters—

(a) In civil matters where the amount claimed does not exceed £100.

(b) In criminal matters as set out in Section 270 of Law 39 of 1927.

There is also a summary jurisdiction given to Resident Magistrates by statute.

The Petty Sessions Court is generally presided over by Justices of the Peace or by the Resident Magistrate of the parish who has the jurisdiction of two Justices of the Peace. The Court deals with minor offences.

There are fifteen Resident Magistrates in the Island, and an Assistant Resident Magistrate for the parish of Kingston.

The Coroner's Court is presided over by the Resident Magistrate of the parish with a jury.

Police.

239. In 1866 it was considered necessary to abolish the old Police Force, dating from 1834, and a Law was passed (No. 8 of 1867) establishing a new and improved Constabulary Force. This latter Law was repealed in 1935 and Law 27 of 1935, "The Jamaica Constabulary Force Consolidation and Amendment Law, 1935," brought into effect.

240. Under Law 27 of 1935, the Governor is empowered to appoint the Officers, and the Inspector General is authorised to appoint the Sub-Officers and Constables.

241. The present authorised strength of the Force is 24 Officers and 1,099 Sub-Officers and Constables. No person shall be eligible for admission into the Jamaica Constabulary unless he can produce a Certificate of Character from a Magistrate or other gentleman of position and can pass a satisfactory Medical Examination. He must not be less than five feet eight inches in height and thirty-three inches round the chest; not less than nineteen or more than thirty years of age, and be able to read without hesitation any printed or written document, and to write a fair hand.

242. Every Constable is enrolled for five years (the first six months being on probation) and is bound to serve and reside in any place to which he may be appointed—his native parish and the parish with which he may be connected by marriage or family ties not being one of the districts to which he may be sent.

243. Members of the Force are trained on semi-military lines and perform the duties appertaining to the Office of Constables. There are separate Detectives and Water Police Branches recruited from the Regular Force. There is also a District Constabulary Force, for the purpose of connecting the main Police system with the remote parts of the Island. The members are drawn from the better class small settlers, and act as auxiliaries to the Regular Police Force.

Prisons.

244. *General Penitentiary.*—This is for convicted male prisoners with sentences exceeding six months, and European prisoners. There is separate cell accommodation for 720 prisoners; a further 150 can be housed in association by using the chapel, and 32 in Hospital Wards. It has not been necessary to keep prisoners in association since 1929.

Digitized by Google

245. *St. Catherine District Prison, Spanish Town.*—For male prisoners awaiting trial, debtors, prisoners under sentence of death, and convicted male prisoners with sentences not exceeding 6 months. There is separate cell accommodation for 512, association rooms including the chapel for 306, and hospital wards for 40.

246. *Juvenile Adult Prison, Spanish Town.*—For selected male prisoners between the ages of 16 and 21. Maximum accommodation for 66.

247. *Females' Prison, Kingston.*—For all women prisoners. Separate cell accommodation for 198; hospital wards for 15.

248. In the adult prisons, first offenders are located and work apart from the more hardened criminals.

249. At the Juvenile adult prison, special rules and conditions prevail which include progressive grades, each grade having its special privileges. There is physical drill daily, and among other privileges which may be earned are games, and meals in association. Any boy proving to be a bad influence is reverted to a Juvenile party of the adult prison. Any young prisoners not selected for the juvenile adult prison are located and work apart from adults in the ordinary prisons. Suitable boys are taught the citrus industry by members of the Department of Agriculture, and many have, in consequence, been placed in good jobs.

250. In the Females' prison, satisfactory classification is not possible as there are only three forms of labour, i.e., washing (mostly for the Public Hospital), ironing and a small amount of sewing. This is particularly unfortunate, because so many young girls of 14 to 18 are sent to prison with short sentences, often on a first conviction. The health of the prisoners is remarkably good.

Brief Statistics.

251. *Average Daily Population.*

	1934.	1935.	1936.
General Penitentiary	605	572	596
St. Catherine District Prison ...	526	501	558
Juvenile Adult Prison	35	36	37
Female Prison	57	52	58
	1,223	1,161	1,249

1932—1,201; 1933—1,301:

Number in custody.	31.12.35.	31.12.36.
General Penitentiary	658	623
St. Catherine District Prison	545	649
	1,203	1,272

1932—1,363; 1933—1,460; 1934—1,115.

	1935.	1936.
Expenditure	£41,132 8 11	£40,998 18 0
Revenue	£9,291 14 0	8,844 0 3
Materials supplied other Depts. free	£2,024 13 6	1,840 7 6
Cost of Prisons	£29,816 1 5	£30,314 10 3
Cost per prisoner per annum	£25 13 7	£24 5 5

Digitized by Google

Value of Prison manufactures and farm products used in prison:—

1935.	1936.
£3,141 1s. 0d.	£3,145 15s. 9d.

The statistics given above shew an increase over last year in the average daily population, but the figure is only slightly above the average for the past 10 years (1,225) and so, taking into account the increase in the population of the Colony and the extent of unemploy ment, cannot be considered other than satisfactory.

CHAPTER XIV.

Legislation.

252. Thirty-seven Laws were passed during the year 1936. The following is a brief summary of those which may be considered of interest:—

Law 3 of 1936.—"A Law to Amend a Law entitled a Law to Amend and Consolidate the Laws imposing Licenses upon Trades and Business, (Law 7 of 1908)." The Law was enacted in order to substitute a schedule of license duties for the duties then subsisting. The effect of the Law is to increase the revenues of the Corporation and Parochial Boards in order to meet the debt charges on that portion of the loan raised for parochial housing and water supply schemes. The revenues of the Corporation and of the Boards being charged accordingly.

Law 5 of 1936.—"A Law to Amend the Young Criminals Punishment Law 1904 (Law 25 of 1904)." The Law alters the age of a "child" from under the age of twelve years to under the age of fourteen years, and that of a "young person" from fourteen years to sixteen years. It abolishes the power hitherto existing to imprison a child.

Law 7 of 1936.—"A Law to make Provision for the Enforcement in Jamaica of Judgments given in Foreign Countries which accord Reciprocal Treatment to Judgments given in Jamaica for facilitating the enforcement in Foreign Countries of Judgments given in Jamaica and for other purposes in connection with the matters aforesaid." The Law makes provision for the enforcement in Jamaica of Foreign Judgments of those countries which accord enforcement in those countries of Judgments given in Jamaica.

Law 16 of 1936.—"A Law to enable Agricultural Loan Societies to which Advances are made from Public Funds to make Loans of a Special Class." The Law is for the purpose of affording aid to the Agricultural Industry of the Island whenever materially damaged. It provides that whenever the Legislative Council vote financial aid for the industry, it shall be lawful for the Governor to place the sum voted at the disposal of the Agricultural Loan Societies Board for the purpose of loans to Agricultural Societies.

Law 20 of 1936.—"A Law to reconstitute the Jamaica Banana Producers Association, Limited, into a Trading Company."

Law 21 of 1936.—"A Law to provide for the Issue by The Jamaica Banana Producers Association, Limited, of Debentures and for Government Guarantee of such Debentures."

Digitized by Google

Law 24 of 1936—"A Law to enable the Regulation and better control of the Banana Industry."

The three Laws mentioned above, being Law 20 of 1936, Law 21 of 1936, and Law 24 of 1936, reconstitute the Jamaica Banana Producers Association into a Limited Liability Company, make provision for Government Guarantee of loans raised by the reconstituted Company by means of debentures not exceeding £450,000 in value and enact certain provisions which would have the effect when implemented of regulating the supply of fruit to the fruit Companies operating in Jamaica.

Law 27 of 1936.—"A Law to Amend further the Laws relating to the Administrator General."

Law 28 of 1936.—"A Law to Amend further the Laws relating to Bankruptcy."

The two Laws mentioned above, being Law 27 of 1936 and Law 28 of 1936, render effective the Government's policy for the separation of the office of the Administrator General from that of the Trustee in Bankruptcy in the Supreme Court.

Law 35 of 1936.—"A Law relating to the Distribution of Estates of Intestates and Charges on Property of Deceased Persons." The Law repeals all Laws governing escheat and the devolution of property on intestacy and re-enacts in Jamaica, with slight modification, the relevant provisions of the Administration of Estates Act 1925 (Imperial).

CHAPTER XV.

FINANCE.

253. The following statement shows the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony during the past five years:—

Revenue.

1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36
£	£	£	£	£
2,085,793	2,169,307	2,037,319	2,260,352	2,121,965

Expenditure.

1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
£	£	£	£	£
2,135,736	2,081,635	2,186,056	2,255,502	2,178,228

254. The total Expenditure during the year ended the 31st March 1936, was £56,263 more than the total Revenue.

Digitized by Google

255. The following is a statement of the Revenue and Expenditure for the period from the 1st April to the 31st December, 1936, under the various Heads:—

Head of Revenue.	Amount.
	£
I. Customs and Excise—	
Customs	872,818
Excise	193,658
II. Harbour Dues, etc.	6,916
III. Licence and Other Internal Revenue Licences—	
Licences	37,219
Fines, etc.	3,621
Judicial Revenue	9,075
IV. Fees of Office, Stamp Duties, etc.—	
Fees of Office	8,191
Commissions	3,227
Stamp Duties	53,143
Judicial Revenue	9,061
V. Reimbursements—	
(1) Debt Charges	111,401
(2) Pensions—Contributions	10,419
(3) Salaries, etc.	7,118
(4) General	7,496
VI. Post Office and Telegraphs—	
(a) Post Office	68,376
(b) Telegraphs	11,556
VII. Departmental Revenue—	
(a) Medical	7,603
(b) Prisons	8,547
(c) Science and Agriculture	2,094
(d) Printing Office	202
(e) Surveyor General	210
(f) Public Works Department	—
(g) Education Department	21
VIII. Irrigation Receipts	13,195
IX. Direct Taxation	127,301
X. Currency	—
XI. Rents	2,104
XII. Interest	2,541
XIII. Miscellaneous Receipts	5,731
	£1,582,844
XIV Surplus in Sinking Funds	—
XV. Land Sales	1,948
XVI. Colonial Development Fund	34,913
	£1,619,705

Digitized by Google

Heads of Expenditure.	Amount.
	£
Charges of Debt	188,704
Pensions	64,494
Pensions of Widows and Orphans	14,634
The Governor and Staff	6,160
Privy Council	47
Legislative Council	3,519
Colonial Secretariat	7,813
Lands Department	9,083
Land Settlement	5,044
Audit Department	6,242
Public Treasury	5,794
Currency Commissioners	999
Government Savings Bank	9,847
Immigration Department	13
Collector General's Department	68,474
Post Office	80,616
Supreme Court	8,997
Law Officers	3,789
Resident Magistrate Courts	32,963
Administrator General's Office	7,033
Medical—General Administration	22,987
" Health Service	27,516
" Hospitals and Lepers' Home	68,543
" Lunatic Asylum	31,730
Constabulary	146,946
Prisons	27,415
Industrial School	4,221
Education	178,019
Harbours and Pilotage	3,750
Marine Board	644
Imperial Forces Allowances	4,296
Local Forces	6,292
Registrar General's Department and Island Record Office	6,255
Registration of Titles Office	2,606
Government Printing Office	16,622
Board of Supervision	555
Department of Science and Agriculture	39,361
Agricultural Loan Societies Board	1,326
Subventions	55,075
Miscellaneous	38,545
Railway	60,263
Public Works Department	39,593
" " Annual Recurrent	220,464
" " Extraordinary	20,379
	£1,547,668
Colonial Development Fund	773
	£1,548,441

Digitized by Google

256. The Assets and Liabilities at the 31st March, 1936, were £977,831 and £967,895, respectively. The year therefore closed with a surplus of £9,936. The following statement shows how the Assets of the Colony at the 31st March, 1936 were held:—

	£	s.	d.
Loans—			
To Agricultural Loan Societies Board ...	37,283	9	3
To Wolmer's Trust	3,596	10	5
From Parochial Water Supplies Fund, Law 25 of 1928	10,985	14	0
Banana Industry Aid Board, Law 15/1932, Advance	19,800	0	0
Banana Industry Aid Board, Law 25/1933, Advance	19,300	0	0
Banana Industry Aid Board, Law 24/1935, Advance	23,000	0	0
Hurricane Loan, 1933	5,875	3	4
Advances—			
Land Settlement	40,202	10	4
On account of Loans to be raised	69,873	9	10
To Parochial Boards	5,133	0	0
Stores	107,494	12	10½
General	41,959	0	7
Appropriated Funds Invested—			
Redemption Funds for Loans guaranteed and unguaranteed by the Colony	78,361	6	4
Deposits for Investment	163,589	3	7
Trust Funds	36,924	8	11
Miscellaneous Funds (Insurance Fund and Earthquake Loan Board)	195,727	1	11
Interest on Loans from Banks under the Banana-Industry Aid, Law 15/1932	3,646	9	3
Interest on Loans from Banks under the Banana Industry Aid, Law 25/1933	1,613	7	3
Expenses Banana Industry Aid Board, Laws 15, 1932, 25/1933 and 24/1935	6,827	14	6
Collector General for Customs Revenue ...	187	15	3
Director Jamaica Railway	2,706	11	8
Emigration Agent, India	139	8	0
Crown Agents for Sundry Invested Funds ...	124	8	11
Imprests	74,323	3	4
Remittances in Transit	2,858	12	5
Bank of Nova Scotia, New York	1,722	5	2
Treasurer	24,575	8	4
	£977,830	15	6½

257. The Colony's Insurance Fund, which forms part of the Assets and is specially earmarked against earthquake, hurricane, or calamity of a like nature, amounted to £181,986 at the 31st March, 1936.

258. The amount of the Public Debt chargeable on General Revenue outstanding at the 31st March, 1936, was £3,780,653. The accumulated Sinking Funds for the redemption of the Debt amounted to £561,806. If the amount standing to the credit of the Sinking Funds be deducted from the Public Debt, the difference—£3,218,847—exceeds by £1,030,066 the estimated Revenue for the financial year 1936-37.

Digitized by Google

259. For purposes of comparison, it may be interesting to append a tabulated statement of the incidence of the Public Debts of Great Britain and Jamaica in 1936:—

	Population.	National Debt.	Per Capita.
		£	
Great Britain ...	45,000,000	7,916,412,462 Public Debt.	175.92
Jamaica ...	1,130,000	3,780,653	3.34

If the accumulation standing to the credit of the Jamaica Sinking Funds on the 31st March, 1936, viz.: £561,806, be deducted from the Public Debt at that date, the amount per capita would be £2 16s. 0d.

CHAPTER XV.

Taxation.

260. A description of the main heads of Taxation and the yield of each, in respect of the year ended 31st March, 1936, are given hereunder:—

	£	s.	d.
i. *Customs*—			
Import Duties	1,024,719	0	0
Export Duties	2,200	0	0
Package Tax	79,844	0	0
ii. *Harbour and Light Dues*—			
Harbour Fees	2,898	0	0
Light Dues	7,184	0	0
iii. Licences	42,635	4	1
Excise	255,943	19	2
Income Tax	78,007	0	4
Property Tax	87,393	12	4
Fines in Petty Sessions	12,164	13	9
Surcharges	3,692	6	9
Stamp Duties	78,711	13	9

Customs Tariff.

261. The general *ad valorem* duty is 20%, and the preferential rate to the British Empire is 15% with slight variations in the duties on certain clases of goods, in addition to specific duties on articles falling chiefly under the heading of Food, Drink, Tobacco and Apparel.

There is also a Free List consisting chiefly of goods for Government and the Parochial Boards, Coal, Manures, Fertilisers, Insecticides, etc., and Agricultural Implements.

Excise Duties.

262. The principal Excise duties were on Cigars, from 6d. to 2/- per 100 according to their value, and Rum 8/- per proof gallon.

Stamp Duties.

263. Estate Duty is chargeable on the value of Real and Personal Property according to the graduated scale denoted in Section 1 of Law 15 of 1929, varying from 3% to 20%.

Legacy Duty is chargeable on all legacies at rates varying from 1% to 10%, according to the consanguinity of the legatee to the testator.

Succession Duty varies from 1% to 10%, according to the relationship to the predecessor.

264. In addition to these are various Stamp Duties on Agreements, Bills of Exchange, Conveyance, Leases, etc.

265. There is no Hut Tax nor Poll Tax collected in the Colony.

Digitized by Google

ADVERTISEMENT

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps, [Colonial No. 111] £1 (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26 York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, C

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

(46282—48) Wt. 2862—3937 549 12/37 P. St. G. 377/7

S.O. Code No. 58-1823

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

(46285—48) Wt. 2861—3936 549 1/38 P. St. G. 377/7

S.O. Code No. 58–1822

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colon

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST.

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

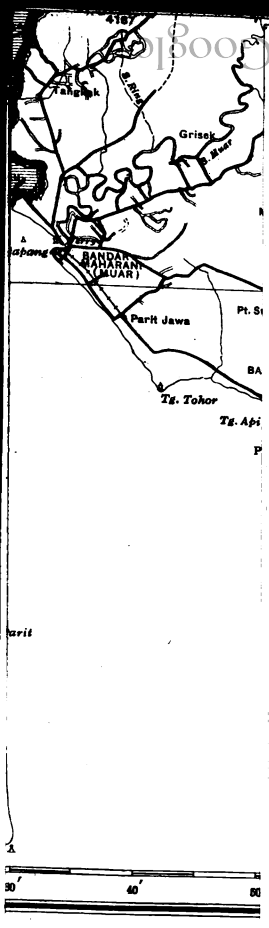
Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

APPENDIX E—(*cont.*)

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST RELATING TO FEDERATED MALAY STATES—(*cont.*).

	Cost. $ c.	Where obtainable.
Fisheries of British Malaya ...	5 00 ...	Printing Department, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Commercial Timber Trees of the Malay Peninsula	5 00 ...	Adviser on Forestry, Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.
Report on the Wild Life Commission (Three volumes) ...	12 00 ...	Government Printer, Singapore, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Malayan Year Book	1 50 ...	Government Printer, Singapore, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Rubber Statistics Handbook ...	1 50 ...	Government Printer, Singapore, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Schedule of Import, Export and Excise Duties, Malaya ...	50 ...	Government Printer, Singapore, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Mui Tsai in Hong Kong and Malaya, Report of Commission	2 50 ...	Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.

Federated Malay States Government Press.

Digitized by Google

Appendix E.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST RELATING TO FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

	Cost. $ c.	Where obtainable.
Census Report, British Malaya, 1931	5 00 ...	Printing Department, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Handbook to British Malaya ...	1 00 ...	Malayan Information Agency, 57, Charing Cross, London.
The Oil Palm in Malaya ...	2 00 ...	Malayan Information Agency, 57, Charing Cross, London, and Department of Agriculture, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States.
An Outline of Malayan Agriculture	3 00 ...	Malayan Information Agency, 57, Charing Cross, London, and Department of Agriculture, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States.
Federated Malay States Law for Planters	1 60 ...	Printing Department, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Treaties and Engagements affecting the Malay States and Borneo	3 50 ...	Printing Department, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Geology of Malayan Ore Deposits	8 00 ...	Director, Geological Survey, Batu Gajah, Federated Malay States, and Messrs. Macmillan and Co., Ltd., London.
Geology of Malaya	8 00 ...	Director, Geological Survey, Batu Gajah, Federated Malay States, and Messrs. Macmillan and Co., Ltd., London.
Mining in Malaya	Free ...	Malayan Information Agency, 57, Charing Cross, London.

APPENDIX D.

Dr. F.M.S. 3 PER CENT. LOCAL LOAN CAPITAL ACCOUNT TO 31st DECEMBER, 1936. *Cr.*

	$ c.	$ c.		$ c.
To Loan Expenses—			By Loan Subscription—	
(*a*) Advertisement	600 20		3 per cent. 1956-66 issued in July,	
(*b*) Commission and Charges ...	37,500 00		1936	15,000,000 00
		38,100 20		
To Transfer to the Supplementary Sinking Funds for the Redemption of the Straits Settlements 6 per cent. Sterling Loan 1936-51	...	14,961,899 80		
		15,000,000 00		15,000,000 00

Digitized by Google

Appendix B.

Dr. F.M.S. 3 PER CENT. STERLING LOAN CAPITAL ACCOUNT TO 31st DECEMBER, 1936. *Cr.*

	$ c.	$ c.		$ c.
To Redemption of 4½ per cent. S.S. Sterling Loan 1935-45—			By Loan Subscription—	
Total Loan raised	36,000,000 00		3 per cent. 1960-70 issued in June, 1935	34,285,714 29
Less Redemption from Revenue Account	1,714,285 71			
		34,285,714 29		
		34,285,714 29		34,285,714 29

Appendix C.

Dr. F.M.S. 4½ PER CENT. LOCAL LOAN CAPITAL ACCOUNT TO 31st DECEMBER, 1936. *Cr.*

	$ c.	$ c.		$ c.
To Loan Expenses—			By Loan Subscription—	
(*a*) Discount on Issue Price ...	320,000 00		4½ per cent. issued at 98 in May, 1931	16,000,000 00
(*b*) Commission and Charges ...	40,000 00			
		360,000 00		
To Loan Works...	...	12,003,297 51		
To Balance	...	3,636,702 49		
		16,000,000 00		16,000,000 00

Digitized by Google

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.—GENERAL RETURN OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, TRADE, AND POPULATION—(*cont.*).

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Trade.		Exports of Tin and Tin-ore (in Tons).	Duty on Tin.	Exports of Rubber. (in Tons).	Duty on Rubber.	Land Revenue and Land Sales.	Railway Receipts.	Population.	Year.
			Imports.	Exports.								
	$	$	$	$		$		$	$	$		
1912	42,647,687	30,990,487	76,122,679	154,974,195	48,420	10,850,121	15,638	1,576,224	2,875,414	8,421,016	1,109,017	1912
1913	44,332,711	47,287,581	86,409,157	148,669,498	50,126	10,729,888	23,720	1,395,923	2,790,451	9,469,446	1,117,625	1913
1914	37,309,943	55,010,037	72,140,005‖	122,962,929‖	49,042	7,046,869	31,012	1,334,245	2,562,436	9,133,911	1,136,500	1914
1915	40,774,984	42,838,631	60,015,935‖	161,838,118‖	46,766	7,235,086	56,782	2,401,914	2,597,836	9,187,512	1,172,336	1915
1916	51,121,856	31,966,581	69,621,113‖	219,943,686‖	43,870	7,903,785	62,813	3,851,815	3,068,766	11,616,696	1,208,177	1916
1917	65,553,186	40,878,746	73,261,725	271,485,389‖	39,833	9,331,288	80,022	4,914,781	3,308,464	13,189,829	1,244,018	1917
1918	68,448,862	45,286,910	74,750,746	223,066,282‖	37,370	13,141,841	78,389	2,254,556	3,657,454	13,106,413	1,279,859	1918
1919	72,135,075	70,676,961	118,854,965	279,135,105	36,934	9,944,177	106,453	4,883,123	3,533,829	14,957,460	1,315,700	1919
1920	72,277,146	100,433,471	170,522,123	288,715,698	34,934	12,203,531	101,330	4,443,100	4,004,095	17,316,533	1,300,000	1920
1921	54,449,568	114,386,546	102,914,877	134,955,549	34,489	6,153,360	94,510	164,169	3,568,490	16,198,426	1,298,292§	1921
1922	52,494,110	49,811,007	78,822,349	140,429,775	35,286	5,766,808	128,461	802,390	3,731,041	13,816,324	1,360,876	1922
1923	63,952,132	52,825,572	89,088,237	197,100,950	37,650	8,265,195	101,311	4,664,374	3,919,900	14,675,106	1,389,667	1923
1924	70,715,407	54,161,234	97,436,302	212,884,740	44,043	12,543,624	93,507	4,228,677	4,135,322	16,210,202	1,418,455	1924
1925	86,564,279	69,550,382	137,116,207	411,878,610	45,926	14,000,633	118,590	8,667,274	3,933,622†	18,743,352	1,447,243	1925
1926	102,541,400	87,663,747	173,887,724	445,600,203	45,947	15,583,799	160,213	11,192,715	5,389,042	21,640,545	1,476,032	1926
1927	105,404,458	93,263,915	176,161,194	339,925,603	52,180	17,704,014	127,593	8,575,863	6,656,724	23,055,515	1,504,823	1927
1928	95,655,560	109,004,240	191,473,471	278,523,482	61,935	16,037,720	174,490	3,712,752	6,639,808	22,347,560	1,533,612	1928
1929	81,799,584‡	84,660,975¶	201,393,405	349,012,595	67,042	15,420,646	261,352	4,313,743	6,694,598	23,331,618	1,562,401	1929
1930	65,560,870‡	82,470,192¶	168,020,418	213,652,044	62,065	9,121,971	249,675	1,084,440	6,224,381	19,272,903	1,722,941	1930
1931	52,348,659‡	62,163,328¶	106,201,211	125,177,183	51,250*	5,501,733	243,886	543,778	4,832,700	12,912,579	1,723,117§	1931
1932	43,817,151‡	53,740,139¶	71,133,301	87,851,281	27,091*	3,594,022	235,898	376,380	4,268,125	9,483,859	1,770,486	1932
1933	47,198,806‡	50,258,671¶	67,129,150	111,885,935	22,824*	4,886,683	248,356	577,406	3,989,363	9,036,776	1,597,770	1933
1934	58,926,323‡	47,211,228¶	84,731,059	202,725,341	36,385	8,886,234	256,516	2,160,157	5,141,756	11,284,147	1,631,728	1934
1935	62,364,264‡	51,119,943¶	87,102,149	186,770,827	40,748	9,700,616	194,478	2,247,497	5,593,334	11,871,097	1,777,421	1935
1936	68,090,902‡	52,702,228¶	96,796,795	246,945,491	64,719	13,410,254	182,873	2,817,180	5,804,247	13,086,733	1,847,951	1936

‖ Excluding bullion and specie. § *Vide* foot-note on page 151. † The figures for previous years included items now omitted owing to reclassification of revenue. ‡ Exclusive of Railway receipts. ¶ Exclusive of Railway expenditure. * The tonnage for the years 1931, 1932 and 1933 was based on 72% tin content of ore and not on the true assay value, viz., 75.5%.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

His late Majesty King George V was graciously pleased to confer the following honours at the New Year:

Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George	Mr. Geoffrey Edmound Cator, British Resident, Perak
Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division)	Mr. Hallam Brookfield Egmont Hake
Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division)	Mrs. Mary Josephine Were, L.R.C.P., S.L., D.P.H., Lady Medical Officer, Infant Welfare Centre, Kuala Lumpur
The King's Police Medal (For Gallantry)	Lance-Corporal Mat Atin bin Malim Patani, Federated Malay States Police Force
Meritorious Service Medal of the Civil Division of the Order of the British Empire	Enche Mohamed Hashim bin Haji Talib, Head Malay Teacher, Sultan Idris Training College, Tanjong Malim
Medal of the Order of the British Empire (Military Division)	Sergeant Robert Paisley Whyte, Malay States Volunteer Regiment

and the following honours were conferred by His Majesty King Edward VIII on the occasion of his birthday:

Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George	Mr. David Henry Elias, General Manager, Federated Malay States Railways, and Member of the Federal Council
Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division)	Mr. George Preston Bradney, late Auditor, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States
Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Military Division)	Lieutenant Douglas Foster Grierson, Perak Battalion, Federated Malay States Volunteer Force
Meritorious Service Medal of the Order of the British Empire	Sub-Inspector Sher Mohamed, Federated Malay States Police Force

JV
33
.G7
A3

A

F

(For

To

Digitized by Google

JV
33
.G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1822

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

FEDERATED MALAY STATES, 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1735 (Price 4s. 6d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1784 (Price 5s. 0d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff:
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1937
Price 2s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google



DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE

COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC REPORTS

The unrivalled collection of information provided by the Reports of the Department of Overseas Trade on world economic conditions may be obtained regularly for a subscription of £2 net. Reports on each country are not always issued annually although most important countries are so dealt with each year. The subscription rate represents a saving over the total net face value of the individual Reports. Reports on some 30 countries are issued annually.

Individual reports may be obtained.

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street
CARDIFF: St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1822

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

FEDERATED MALAY STATES, 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1735 (Price 4s. 6d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1784 (Price 5s. 0d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent. Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 2s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Serials
2-5-38
15-2-05

CONTENTS.

Chapter.		Page.
I.	Geography, including Climate and History	1
II.	Government	6
III.	Population	8
IV.	Health	13
V.	Housing	19
VI.	Production	23
VII.	Commerce	59
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	63
IX.	Education	65
X.	Communications and Transport	80
XI.	Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures	92
XII.	Public Works	93
XIII.	Justice and Police	107
XIV.	Legislation	112
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	115
XVI.	Miscellaneous	132

APPENDICES.

General Return of Revenue, Expenditure, Trade, and Population.

F.M.S. 3 per cent. Sterling Loan Capital Account to 31st December, 1936.

F.M.S. 4½ per cent. Local Loan Capital Account to 31st December, 1936.

F.M.S. 3 per cent. Local Loan Capital Account to 31st December, 1936.

List of Publications of General Interest Relating to Federated Malay States.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

REPORT OF THE FEDERAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT FOR THE YEAR 1936.

CHAPTER I.

Geography, including Climate and History.

The Federated Malay States comprise four States: Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang, the federation of which was effected by treaty in 1895.

Perak.

Perak is the northernmost of the three States on the West Coast of the Peninsula. It comprises 7,980 square miles. On the North it borders with Province Wellesley, Kedah and Siam; on the East it is separated from Kelantan and Pahang by the main range of granite mountains that forms the backbone of the Peninsula. The Perak river (170 miles long) is the principal river of the State. The capital of the State is Taiping.

Perak is ruled by a dynasty that claims descent from the last Malay Sultan of Malacca. From 1650 onwards, the Dutch endeavoured to get a monopoly of the tin exported from Perak, establishing near the mouth of the Perak river several factories, which the Malays, from time to time, cut off and destroyed. In 1765 the Sultan made a treaty with the Dutch.

British influence began early in the XIXth century. A treaty with Penang in 1818 secured to British subjects the right to free trade in Perak. In 1826 the Sultan ceded to the British the Dindings and the Island of Pangkor as posts for the suppression of piracy, and agreed to rely solely on the protection of Great Britain. From 1872 to 1874 there was almost continuous fighting of more or less severity between rival factions of Chinese in the Larut district where valuable tin deposits had been found. Having regard to the anarchy which prevailed, Sir Andrew Clarke, in 1874, induced the Perak chiefs to sign the Pangkor

Digitized by Google

Treaty, and to accept thereby a Resident whose advice should be "asked and acted upon on all questions other than those touching Malay religion and custom".

By an Act of Parliament which received the Royal Assent on the 16th November, 1934, the territory of the Dindings was restored to Perak and has formed part of the State since the middle of February, 1935. The present Ruler of the State is His Highness Paduka Sri Sultan Iskandar Shah, G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., ibni Al Marhum Al Sultan Idris.

Selangor.

Selangor (3,160 square miles), also on the West Coast is separated from Pahang on the East by the main mountain range of the Peninsula and from Negri Sembilan by the Sepang river. Port Swettenham, the principal harbour of the Federated Malay States, is situated on the estuary of the Klang river in this State. Kuala Lumpur, the Federal capital, and also the capital of the State, is situated some thirty miles further up the Klang river.

During the period of Portuguese ascendency, little is known of the Selangor coast. The Dutch opened factories for the purchase of tin at Kuala Selangor and at Kuala Linggi. In 1718 A.D., Daeng Chelak, a Bugis chief, who had married a Johore princess, settled at Kuala Selangor, and about 1780 their descendant was recognised as Sultan Salehu'd-din by the Ruler of Perak. The throne has remained in the same family ever since.

In 1818, the Sultan of Selangor made a commercial treaty with the East India Company at Penang. In 1874, anarchy prevailed amongst the Malay chiefs of Selangor, and pirates ravaged the coastal trade. The Sultan's difficulties were such that he was glad to accept a British Resident, and to come under the protection of Great Britain. The present Ruler is His Highness Sultan Ala'idin Sulaiman Shah, G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., ibni Al-Marhum Raja Muda Musa.

Negri Sembilan.

Negri Sembilan, South of Selangor, comprises 2,580 square miles. On the South it borders on Johore and on the East on Pahang. In the southern part of the State the great mountain range has disappeared and the water-parting between the West and the East Coasts is merely hilly and in places nearly flat ground. Seremban is the capital.

Digitized by Google

This federation of "Nine States" consists of the four major States of Sungei Ujong, Jelebu, Johol and Rembau, and the five minor States of Ulu Muar, Jempul, Terachi, Gunong Pasir and Inas. In the XVth century, it was ruled by Chiefs of the old kingdom of Malacca. Nearly all the Malay inhabitants of the "Nine States" are descended from immigrants from Menangkabau in Sumatra, and have an interesting matrilineal sociological system. After the wresting of Malacca from the Portuguese by the Dutch and the Johore Malays in 1641 A.D., Johore took a leading part in Negri Sembilan politics until 1773 A.D., when the Undang or Ruling Chiefs of the four major States brought from Sumatra a Yam Tuan named Raja Melewar, ancestor of the present Yang-di-pertuan Besar.

In 1874, the Dato' Klana, Chief of Sungei Ujong, the most important of the "Nine States" invited and obtained the assistance of the British Government to maintain his rule, and the appointment of a British Resident. In 1883, Jelebu applied for a British officer; and Rembau agreed to refer all its disputes to the British Government, and in 1887 accepted a British adviser. In 1889, the Yam Tuan of Sri Menanti and the Rulers of Tampin and Rembau asked for a Resident, and agreed to a confederation known as "The Old Negri Sembilan". In 1895, the Resident of this confederation took charge of Sungei Ujong and of Jelebu, and the modern Negri Sembilan was constituted. Finally, in 1898, the Yam Tuan of Sri Menanti was elected titular Ruler of the whole State. The present Ruler is His Highness Tuanku Abdulrahman, K.C.M.G., ibni Al-Marhum Tuanku Muhammad, Yang-di-pertuan Besar, Negri Sembilan.

Pahang.

Pahang, the only State of the Federation on the East Coast, comprises 13,820 square miles. It is bordered on the South by Johore, on the West by Negri Sembilan, Selangor and Perak, and on the North by Trengganu and Kelantan. The highest mountain in the Peninsula (Tahan, 7,184 feet) is in this State

The dynasty that ruled Pahang also claims descent from the Rulers of the royal house of Malacca, and before that house died out in 1699 its Pahang branch provided several Rulers for the senior throne of Johore which directly represented the Malacca dynasty. Later, Pahang fell under the suzerainty of the new Sultans of Johore, who, when they removed to Lingga, left a Dato' Bendahara in charge of Pahang.

Digitized by Google

In 1887, Sir Frederick Weld negotiated a treaty with the Bendahara of Pahang, promising British help in the event of external attack, and arranging for a British agent to be stationed at his capital. At the same time, the title of Sultan was substituted for that of Dato' Bendahara. In 1888, the Sultan applied for and obtained British protection, and the appointment of a Resident. The present Ruler is His Highness Al-Sultan Abu Bakar Ri'ayatu'd-din Al-Mu'ad-dzam Shah, K.C.M.G., ibni Al-Marhum Al-Sultan Abdullah.

CLIMATE.

The characteristic features of the climate of Malaya are uniform temperature, high humidity and copious rainfall, and arise mainly from the maritime exposure of the Peninsula. By uniform temperature is meant the lack of serious temperature variation throughout the year; the daily range of temperature is generally between 10° and 15°F. at coastal stations and between 15° and 20°F. at inland stations. The variation of temperature throughout the year is very small and excessive temperatures which are found in continental tropical areas are never experienced. In this connection it may be noted that an air temperature of 100°F. has very rarely been recorded in Malaya under standard conditions.

The variation of rainfall is the most important feature in the seasonal division of the year, but as this is not the same everywhere and as it is due to the more uniform periodic changes in the wind, the wind changes are usually spoken of when seasons are mentioned. There are four seasons which we can distinguish, namely, that of the South-West Monsoon, that of the North-East Monsoon, and two shorter seasons separating the end of each of these from the beginning of the other.

The winds of the South-West Monsoon, as experienced in Malaya, are very light and at the ground are almost completely lost in stronger local circulations such as the land and sea breezes which are a regular feature.

The North-East Monsoon occurs at the season which corresponds with the winter of the northern latitudes. This wind is actually the normal North-East Trade Wind which moves south at this time of the year and is strengthened by the low temperatures on the continent of Asia. As a consequence it is a much stronger and steadier wind than the South-West Monsoon so far as Malaya is concerned.

Digitized by Google

The times of commencement of the monsoons vary to some extent. The South-West Monsoon is usually established in the latter part of May or early in June and ends in September. The North-East Monsoon usually commences in late October or November and ends in March.

The seasonal variation of rainfall in Malaya is of three types. Along the East Coast, and for some miles inland, the maximum rainfall occurs with the North-East Monsoon, the remainder of the year being comparatively dry. There is a steady increase of rainfall month by month from May or June to December, followed by a steady decrease on to the middle of the year. Over the inland districts and along the greater part of the West Coast the maximum rainfall usually occurs in October and November. A second rainy season, though not so pronounced, occurs in March and April, the middle periods of the monsoons being comparatively dry.

The yearly rainfall is high over the whole of the Peninsula, the driest station of those at which records have been kept being Jelebu, with an average of 65 inches. The highest rainfall recorded occurs in the Larut Hills near Taiping where the average at "The Cottage" (4,513 ft.) is 235 inches. Taiping itself, at the foot of these hills, has the highest rainfall of the low-level stations with an average of 166 inches. The high rainfall of this area is exceptional and at other hill stations at approximately the same height, but in the main range of mountains, the average rainfall is lower; Fraser's Hill for example averages 110 inches and Cameron Highlands 107 inches.

The nights are reasonably cool everywhere and although the days are frequently hot, and, on account of the high humidity somewhat oppressive, it very rarely happens that refreshing sleep is not obtained at night. The effect of the heat and humidity is, however, cumulative, and after a few years Europeans require a change to a bracing climate if their health is to be maintained.

At the hill stations conditions are very different. Uniformity of temperature is still found but the temperature itself is, naturally, much lower. The highest temperature recorded at Fraser's Hill (4,200 feet) is 81°F. and at Tanah Rata, Cameron Highlands (4,750 feet), 79°F. The coolest night temperature recorded at Fraser's Hill is 53°F. and at Tanah Rata 42°F. or only 10°F. above freezing.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER II.

Government.

Constitution of the States.

The supreme authority in each State is vested in the Sultan or the Ruler in State Council. His Highness the Sultan or the Ruler presides over the State Council. The British Resident is a member, and in Perak and Selangor, the Secretary to Resident also is a member.

The State Council of Negri Sembilan comprises two Chambers, the Council of the Yang-di-pertuan Besar and Undang, and the Lower Chamber or State Council. Legislation is introduced into the State Council and if passed is submitted to His Highness and the Undang for amendment or confirmation, and assent is finally given by His Highness and the Undang. Matters which concern Muhammadan religion and Malay customs are dealt with by the Upper Chamber which legislates on such matters by means of Orders in Council and also exercises the statutory executive powers vested in the State Council.

The Federation.

In 1895, a Treaty was signed by the Rulers of the four States by which they agreed to constitute their countries into a Federation which was to be known as the Federated Malay States and to be administered under the advice of the British Government, while all existing treaties and arrangements were to stand. The State Councils agreed to the appointment of an officer styled Resident-General (a title later altered to Chief Secretary to Government) as the agent and representative of the British Government under the Governor of the Straits Settlements who became ex officio the High Commissioner for the Malay States. They agreed to follow his advice in all matters of administration other than those touching the Muhammadan religion, provided that the relations between the Malay Rulers and the British Residents remained unaffected.

In 1909, a Federal Council was created in order to give effect to a desire for the joint arrangement of all matters of common interest to the Federation or affecting more than one State.

In 1927 the Federal Council was reconstituted and the Rulers withdrew from active participation in the deliberations of the Council; and the Council was enlarged by the addition of a number of official and unofficial members.

Digitized by Google

During the year under review an important change was made in the political structure of the Federation, as a further step towards decentralisation, by the abolition of the post of Chief Secretary to Government and the substitution of a post of Federal Secretary, ranking as a Class Ia appointment in the Malayan Civil Service. The office carries a seat on the Federal Council and in precedence comes next after the Residents. The duties of the post in purely Federal matters comprise all those which ordinarily appertain to an office of Chief or Colonial Secretary. In matters appertaining purely to the States he is the channel of communication between the States and the High Commissioner. This change was effected on the 24th February, 1936.

The Federal Council consisted in 1936 of the High Commissioner as President; the four British Residents; the Federal Secretary; the Legal Adviser; the Financial Adviser; the Adviser on Medical Services; the Controller of Labour; the General Manager for Railways; the Adviser on Education; the Commissioner of Customs and Excise; the Secretary for Chinese Affairs; the Adviser on Agriculture; one Official Member nominated by the High Commissioner and twelve Unofficial Members who are nominated by the High Commissioner with the approval of His Majesty the King. The Federal Council passes all laws affecting more than one State, but such legislation is enacted by the Rulers of the Federated Malay States by and with the advice and consent of the Federal Council. Certain laws relating to departments, which under the decentralisation policy have been transferred to State control, though affecting more than one State are however passed by the State Councils. The Federal Council retains the supreme financial control within the Federation, but each State Council now appropriates in a State Supply Enactment the expenditure in respect of purely State services up to a definite sum allocated to the State beforehand by resolution of the Federal Council.

Local Government.

For the purposes of local Government the Federated Malay States are divided into 25 districts in each of which there is a Sanitary Board, a Licensing Board, and in a few districts a Drainage Board. Each Board is composed of officials and non-officials, the former being members ex officio, while the latter are influential residents of the district nominated by the Resident of the State in which the district is situated. The Sanitary Boards are the sanitary authority in the towns and

Digitized by Google

larger villages. They are responsible also for street lighting, rating, town planning and municipal matters generally. The Licensing Boards control the licensing of the sale of intoxicating liquors. The Drainage Boards are appointed for certain flat and low-lying districts on the West Coast, and are charged with the administration of drainage works in their districts.

CHAPTER III.

Population.

The population of the Federated Malay States on the 30th June, 1936, was estimated to be 1,847,951, an increase of 70,530 on the figure for 1935. This estimate was based on the 1931 census, brought up-to-date by including the balance of births and deaths, and of immigration and emigration. The increase of 70,530 over last year is made up of 35,976 on account of the balance of births over deaths, and the remainder from immigration.

Immigration has had far less influence on the vital statistics for 1936 than in 1935. During the twelve months ending in June, 1936, the population has increased, by the balance of immigration over emigration, only to the extent of about 35,000 as against 100,000 the previous year.

The population represents :

ESTIMATED POPULATION—MID-YEAR 1936.

State.	Malays.	Chinese.	Indians.	Non-Asiatics.	Others.	Total.
Perak	304,683	347,151	168,768	3,032	6,459	830,093
Selangor	137,116	260,256	164,842	3,594	9,967	575,775
Negri Sembilan ...	96,402	97,750	51,481	1,065	3,155	249,853
Pahang	119,456	55,920	14,989	474	1,391	192,230
Total ...	657,657	761,077	400,080	8,165	20,972	1,847,951

The sex ratio for the Federated Malay States as a whole was 142 males to 100 females. The ratio for Indians was slightly higher than in 1935, namely, 187 males to 100 females, as against 185 in 1935. There has been a further improvement in the Chinese population which now has a ratio of 162 males to 100 females, compared with 165 to 100 in 1935.

The estimated population at the end of the year was 1,887,150, an increase of 39,199.

Digitized by Google

Births.

There were 71,504 births registered during the year, an increase of 7,783 or 12.2 per cent. over the figure for 1935.

The birth-rate was 38.7 per mille compared with 35.9 per mille in 1935. The birth-rate for each race increased in every State, being most marked amongst Malays whose rate for the Federated Malay States increased from 37.5 in 1935 to 43.4. It is of interest to note that the birth-rates for the Malays and for the total population, are the highest ever recorded.

Of the total births, 37,548 were males and 33,956 females, giving a birth sex ratio of 111 males to 100 females: the ratio for 1935 was 109 males to 100 females.

Births of children of Chinese race still exceeded those of Malays in the Federated Malay States as a whole, but in proportion to their respective populations the Malay birth-rate was higher.

Deaths.

There were 35,528 deaths recorded in 1936, an increase of 161 or 0.45 per cent. over 1935.

The crude death-rate was 19.2 per mille which compares favourably with the rate of 19.9 per mille in 1935 and 21.4 per mille in 1934.

The increase in birth-rate and the decrease in death-rate were due to two factors, influx of adult population during 1936 and improvement in public health.

The death-rates show a marked general improvement except amongst Malays in Perak, Selangor and Negri Sembilan, where the rate has increased. This increase, however, was slight, being 0.5 per mille for the whole of the Federated Malay States and was more than accounted for by the increased number of births. There was a sharp drop in the Indian death-rate in Selangor, possibly due to the decrease in malaria. The Indian rate in Pahang was still high but considerably improved as compared with 1935.

The Registrar-General draws attention to the sex distribution of deaths at the different ages. During childhood, 1-14 years, the mortality amongst females was still proportionately too high amongst Malays and Indians, and in the child bearing years, 15-34, the excess of female deaths was alarming. In the case of Indians, it must be remembered that in this adult group

Digitized by Google

the ratio of the sexes, though it could not be estimated absolutely, was in the region of 1½ to 2 men to 1 woman; and the comparative figure for female to male mortality, with correction for population, was about 2 to 1. The only explanation of this would appear to be a low standard of nutrition, early marriage and lack of proper attention during pregnancy and child birth. The figures for the Chinese for the same age groups, corrected for sex ratio in the population, were within reasonable limits, the ratio being about 11 to 10.

The maternal mortality rate was 10.1 per 1,000 births, compared with 9.5 in 1935 and 9.8 in 1934. By States the rate was fairly constant, but by race exceptional maternal mortality was disclosed amongst Malays (13.2) and Indians (14.9). The Chinese rates of 4.9 for the Federated Malay States can be compared with the English rate of just under 4.

Infant Mortality.

After a marked rise in 1934, infant mortality declined to 142 per mille in 1936, a rate slightly lower than that for 1935 and much lower than the 1934 rate which was 163. The rate for Malays in Perak increased from 144 to 162 per mille, but it was still a big improvement on the 1934 figure of 192. The infant mortality rate for the State of Perak as a whole was 142, compared with 138 per mille for last year.

The lowest rate in 1936 was for Chinese in the State of Perak—123 per mille—and the next for Indians in the State of Selangor and for Malays in the State of Negri Sembilan—129 per mille.

A comparison of the infant mortality rates of the five large towns in the Federated Malay States offers an index of health conditions which is derived from known and reliable data :

Infant Deaths per Mille.

	1936.	1935.	1934.
Kuala Lumpur ...	131	133	147
Ipoh	96	96	95
Taiping	144	161	186
Seremban ...	144	158	177
Kuala Lipis ...	114	187	139

It is gratifying to note that there has been a considerable improvement in Kuala Lipis on the figures for 1935 and 1934, and a slight improvement in three other towns. It is difficult

Digitized by Google

to offer any explanation for the disparity between the figures for these towns in all of which Infant Welfare Centres are functioning.

TABLE I.

BIRTH-RATE IN THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES ACCORDING TO RACES FOR THE PERIOD 1927-1936, PER MILLE.

Year.	Malays.	Chinese.	Indians.	All races.
1927	35.9	30.7	23.5	30.5
1928	37.4	34.5	24.5	32.5
1929	33.6	37.6	25.5	32.4
1930	39.5	40.9	27.9	36.5
1931	37.3	31.3	32.3	33.3
1932	36.6	31.9	35.0	34.0
1933	39.3	33.1	34.6	35.5
1934	37.8	35.1	33.2	45.4
1935	37.5	37.4	32.1	35.9
1936	43.4	38.5	33.3	38.7

TABLE II.

SUMMARY OF BIRTH-RATES IN THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES PER MILLE ACCORDING TO STATES AND RACES FOR 1936.

State.	Malays.	Chinese.	Indians.	Others.	All races.
Perak	44.1	36.5	31.3	11.8	38.0
Selangor	42.5	41.0	34.3	11.7	38.7
Negri Sembilan	46.4	36.8	36.7	9.5	40.0
Pahang	40.2	42.8	33.0	2.1	40.0
F.M.S.	43.4	38.5	33.3	10.8	38.7

TABLE III.

DEATH-RATES IN THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES ACCORDING TO RACES FOR THE PERIOD 1927-1936, PER MILLE.

Year.	Malays.	Chinese.	Indians.	All races.
1927	26.4	34.1	32.9	30.7
1928	24.4	30.6	30.2	28.0
1929	21.8	29.6	23.4	24.6
1930	20.4	30.4	21.8	24.1
1931	18.8	18.9	20.5	19.1
1932	19.1	18.3	18.9	18.5
1933	22.0	19.3	19.7	20.2
1934	23.7	20.9	19.7	21.4
1935	21.0	19.8	19.5	19.9
1936	21.5	18.5	18.0	19.2

Digitized by Google

TABLE IV.

SUMMARY OF DEATH-RATES IN THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES PER MILLE ACCORDING TO STATES AND RACES FOR 1936 AND 1935.

State.	Malays.		Chinese.		Indians.		All races.	
	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.
Perak	23.4	21.5	18.1	19.5	18.7	19.4	20.0	20.1
Selangor	19.3	18.0	18.8	19.6	15.7	18.0	17.7	18.4
Negri Sembilan ...	20.8	20.3	17.3	19.3	20.9	21.2	19.1	20.0
Pahang	19.6	23.7	21.6	23.1	23.9	27.3	20.4	23.6
F.M.S. ...	21.5	21.0	18.5	19.8	18.0	19.5	19.2	19.9

TABLE V.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES AT DIFFERENT AGES IN THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES ACCORDING TO STATES FOR THE YEAR 1936.

State.	AGE GROUPS.								Grand total.
	Under 1 year.	1-4 years.	5-9 years.	10-19 years.	20-29 years.	30-39 years.	40-49 years.	50 years and over.	
Perak	4,488	2,057	664	659	1,339	1,698	1,608	4,130	16,643
Selangor	3,065	1,183	355	391	867	1,051	919	2,362	10,193
Negri Sembilan ...	1,440	516	185	195	390	544	510	997	4,777
Pahang	1,179	486	178	137	296	414	374	851	3,915
Total ...	10,172	4,242	1,382	1,382	2,892	3,707	3,411	8,340	35,528

TABLE VI.

SUMMARY OF INFANT MORTALITY RATES IN THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES ACCORDING TO STATES AND RACES FOR THE YEAR 1936, PER THOUSAND BIRTHS.

State.	Malays.	Chinese.	Indians.
Perak	162	123	139
Selangor	136	143	129
Negri Sembilan ...	129	162	148
Pahang	150	166	130
Average rate ...	149	139	136

Digitized by Google

TABLE VII.

INFANT MORTALITY RATES. ALL NATIONALITIES, 1936.

State.	Infant deaths.	Births.	Infant mortality rates.
Perak ...	4,488 ...	31,510 ...	142
Selangor ...	3,065 ...	22,302 ...	137
Negri Sembilan	1,440 ...	9,998 ...	144
Pahang ...	1,179 ...	7,694 ...	153
F.M.S. ...	10,172 ...	71,504 ...	142

TABLE VIII.

SUMMARY OF INFANT MORTALITY RATES (ALL STATES AND ALL RACES) IN THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES FOR THE PERIOD 1927-1936.

Year.	Infant mortality rate per mile.
1927	203
1928	182
1929	178
1930	163
1931	139
1932	137
1933	146
1934	163
1935	144
1936	142

CHAPTER IV.

Health.

The general health of the people remained satisfactory during the year although there was an increase of 161 deaths or 0.45 per cent. over the figure for 1935.

Digitized by Google

There was again an increase of admissions to the Government hospitals during the year after a steady decrease since 1932, as shown below :

1932	...	...	...	...	85,978
1933	...	...	...	...	76,297
1934	...	...	...	...	75,916
1935	...	...	...	...	92,276
1936	...	...	...	...	98,551

The increase was to some extent caused by the increase in population due to immigration.

If the infant mortality rate may be regarded as a sensitive index of general health conditions then the general health may be considered satisfactory, as the sudden rise in the infant mortality rate for 1934 from 146 per mille in 1933 to 163 per mille, declined to 144 per mille in 1935 and to 142 per mille in 1936.

There is evidence of a further improvement in public health, shown in the total death-rate and the infant mortality rate. The general death-rate has not been influenced to the same extent by migration as in 1935. It is satisfactory to report that the crude death-rate declined to 19.2 per mille, compared with 19.9 in 1935, and that the infant mortality rate has fallen from 144 in 1935 to 142 per mille in 1936.

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATHS IN THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES ACCORDING TO STATES FOR THE YEAR 1936.

State.	Causes of Deaths.												
	Malaria fever definitely diagnosed.	Enteric fever.	Dysentery.	Small-pox.	Diphtheria.	Cholera.	Plague.	Cerebro-spinal fever.	Tetanus.	Tropical typhus.	Influenza.	Probable malaria and fever unspecified.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system.
Perak ...	386	29	156	...	12	...	...	3	103	5	20	6,709	580
Selangor ...	182	15	164	...	26	...	...	6	89	6	10	2,724	384
N. Sembilan ...	208	13	64	...	7	...	...	...	26	5	4	1,504	234
Pahang ...	139	3	26	...	3	...	...	...	15	...	6	1,519	189
Total ...	915	60	410	...	48	...	...	9	233	16	40	12,456	1,387

Digitized by Google

State.	Causes of Deaths.											
	Other forms of tuberculosis.	Syphilis.	Ankylostomiasis.	Cancer.	Beri-beri.	Diseases of the heart.	Other diseases of circulatory system.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia (all forms).	Other diseases of respiratory system.	Diarrhœa and enteritis.	Other diseases of digestive system.
Perak	65	47	15	92	66	336	43	173	970	219	391	378
Selangor ...	32	44	17	80	124	193	145	282	750	59	568	268
N. Sembilan ...	1	14	2	19	79	94	31	147	388	21	255	56
Pahang ...	3	5	1	6	70	45	21	35	162	174	72	125
Total ...	101	110	35	197	339	668	240	637	2,270	473	1,286	827

State.	Causes of Deaths.									
	Convulsions.	Diseases of nervous system and sense organs.	Non-venereal diseases of genito-urinary system.	Diseases of pregnancy, child-birth and puerperal state.	Premature birth and diseases of early infancy.	Old age or senility.	Violence (all forms).	Leprosy.	Other causes.	Total.
Perak	2,134	140	164	308	466	1,201	341	5	1,806	16,643
Selangor ...	1,500	108	143	240	529	897	346	3	259	10,193
N. Sembilan ...	670	29	80	92	181	282	142	...	129	4,777
Pahang ...	441	26	23	81	132	166	80	...	347	3,915
Total ...	4,745	303	410	721	1,308	2,546	909	8	1,821	35,528

Prevailing Diseases.

Malaria.—There was a decrease in the number of recorded cases of malaria in the States of Perak, Selangor and Negri Sembilan, and a slight increase in the State of Pahang. The total number of cases admitted to Government hospitals during the year was 20,334, compared with 21,975 cases in 1935, and 15,786 cases in 1934.

All cases of malaria admitted to hospital are accurately diagnosed and the number of such cases may therefore be regarded as a reliable index of the disease.

Anti-malaria measures throughout the Federated Malay States have been maintained as adequately as the need for economy permitted. It is clear that anti-malaria measures must not only be maintained but intensified if this improvement is to be maintained.

Digitized by Google

Distribution of quinine through the agency of schools, village headmen and departmental staff, was continued on a large scale.

Dysentery, Diarrhoea and Enteritis.—This group was responsible for 1,696 deaths or 4.7 per cent. of total deaths. In 1935 and 1934, the percentages were 4.7 per cent. and 4.0 per cent. respectively.

Pneumonia.—This condition was again responsible for the greater number of deaths due to diseases of the respiratory system and accounted for 2,270 deaths or 6.3 per cent. of the total number of deaths. This rate shows an increase of 51 over the figure for last year. In 1935 and 1934, the figures were 2,219 and 1,793 deaths, respectively.

Tuberculosis.—Tuberculosis in various forms was responsible for 1,488 deaths, of which 101 were due to the non-pulmonary type, giving a percentage of 4.2 per cent. of the total deaths, compared with 1,441 deaths in 1935 and 1,374 deaths in 1934.

Leprosy.—Sungei Buloh Settlement.—There were 1,593 patients at the beginning of the year, as compared with 1,320 at the beginning of 1935. The number increased to 1,830 at the end of the year. The total number treated in the settlement during the year amounted to 2,142.

The number of patients discharged as bacteriologically negative and free from signs of active lesions was 50, compared with 51 last year. The most important factor in the reduction in discharges is that it has been found necessary to retain at Sungei Buloh "burnt out" cases of leprosy, who are no longer infective, but who are disfigured with the scars and crippled with the deformities of the disease.

Two hundred and fifteen patients were re-admitted during the year.

Leper Asylum, Kuala Lumpur.—This contains a diminishing number of chronic and incurable lepers who are opium smokers. No additions have been made to their number since 1931, except for leper staff temporarily transferred from Sungei Buloh. The population was 219 at the beginning of the year and 200 at the end of 1936.

Digitized by Google

Venereal Diseases.—The number of patients for venereal diseases in Government hospitals and clinics is still declining. The total number of cases of venereal diseases treated in the Federated Malay States in each of the last eight years was:

Year.	Total cases treated.
1929	... 40,802
1930	... 35,734
1931	... 31,817
1932	... 25,207
1933	... 23,176
1934	... 19,704
1935	... 18,422
1936	... 17,741

Hospitals and other Medical Institutions.

The following table shows the average daily number of patients in the hospitals of each State, the total number of patients admitted during the year, the total number of deaths, and the death-rate for the years 1935 and 1936:

State.	Average daily No. of patients.		Total number of patients admitted.		Deaths.		Deaths per hundred admissions.	
	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
Perak	1,523	1,652	39,890	43,308	3,219	3,337	8.07	7.71
Selangor	982	1,029	23,992	25,846	1,886	1,917	7.86	7.41
Negri Sembilan ...	731	763	15,976	15,780	1,102	1,194	6.88	7.56
Pahang	462	506	12,495	13,617	753	813	6.0	5.97
Total ...	3,698	3,950	92,353	98,551	6,960	7,261	7.20	7.36

The total number of out-patients treated at hospitals and dispensaries (including travelling dispensaries), apart from those treated at special institutions such as infant welfare centres, venereal disease clinics, etc., was 714,560; the corresponding figure for 1935 was 653,430.

Infant Welfare Centres.

The work at the Infant Welfare Centres and clinics was continued successfully. The total number of attendances at the various clinics numbered 160,786.

The three centres started in Pahang in 1934, connected with the hospitals at Kuala Lipis, Kuantan and Pekan, have become very popular. The special centre on the East Coast of Pahang has made excellent progress. The Lady Medical Officer visited the kampongs to attend on the maternity cases

Digitized by Google

and the increased number of attendances showed appreciation. The centres are in charge of a Lady Medical Officer or a Sister assisted by a staff of Asiatic nurses.

The educational side of the centres continued to be of primary importance and every effort was made to continue lectures and practical demonstrations.

Ante-natal work is being carried out on an increased scale, and includes physical and laboratory examination as well as arrangements for dental treatment. The principal function of the clinics, however, is to teach mothers how to look after their children properly. The health visitors visit the homes of newly-born infants, and later encourage the mothers to come to the centres. Health visitors are well received everywhere. At all centres, the majority of those who seek advice are Chinese.

Central Mental Hospital.

The number of patients on the 31st December, 1935, was 2,620. The number of admissions during the year totalled 1,087. This is the largest number ever admitted in one year and is the first time more than 1,000 cases have been admitted in one year. In 1935 and 1934, the admissions were 963 and 881, respectively. The number remaining at the end of the year 1936 was 2,626.

Admissions.

Males.		Females.		Total.
808	...	279	...	1,087

The most common forms of mental disorder among the admissions were:

Confusional insanity	459
Senile dementia	214
Dementia praecox	113
Melancholia	92

Eight hundred and sixty-three patients were discharged during the year. Two hundred and twenty-two patients were discharged as recovered; a recovery rate of 20.4 per cent. on the total admissions. This is lower than the recovery rates for 1935 and 1934, which were 29.1 per cent. and 32.69 per cent. Five hundred and twenty-four were discharged as relieved and 117 as unimproved. The total of those discharged as recovered or relieved gives a percentage of 68.5 on the number of admissions.

Digitized by Google

Two hundred and five patients died during the year. This is 19 more than the previous year and gives a death-rate of 5.53 per cent. on the total treated.

The general health of the patients was good throughout the year. There was a decrease in the number of cases of malaria; 101 cases were treated as compared with 168 in 1935.

The farms continued to be productive and the hospital is self-supporting as regards fruit, vegetables and pork.

Decrepit Settlements.

Decrepit settlements are maintained in Taiping, Kampar, Kuala Lumpur, Serendah, Kajang and Tampin.

The total average daily number of inmates during the year was 654, of which number 260 were accommodated in the decrepit settlements in Selangor.

Inmates of these settlements who become ill, are transferred to the hospital wards and are recorded along with the hospital patients.

CHAPTER V.

Housing.

The subject of housing in the Federated Malay States may be treated in its relation to buildings within Sanitary Board or urban areas on the one hand and to accommodation in rural districts on the other; in either case it admits of a dual classification, i.e., housing of (1) salaried or employer classes, and (2) wage-earning or labouring classes.

Housing Within Sanitary Board Areas.

Control over housing in Sanitary Board areas is exercised through the Building By-laws of the Sanitary Boards Enactment (Cap. 137). Towns and villages which consist of a score or so of houses, but which are not Sanitary Board areas proper, are generally brought under modified control by applying some of the provisions and by-laws under Part X. of the Enactment. The houses occupied by salaried Government servants are erected by Government according to standard approved plans and are divided into certain classes or grades according to the salary of

Digitized by Google

the officer concerned, the occupant normally being charged the monthly rent laid down for the particular class or grade. The houses of the merchants, traders and professional practitioners either stand in their own grounds (this is almost invariably the case among Europeans) or conform to the shop-house type. Such shop-houses are generally two-storied, the occupier plying his trade downstairs and living above his work.

For Government employees of the wage-earning class, e.g., labourers in the Sanitary Boards, Public Works and Health Departments, lines or barracks are provided free of rent and are erected according to plans approved by the Public Works and Health Departments. In the larger towns such lines are of permanent, in the smaller Sanitary Board areas of semi-permanent construction. Periodical inspections of such lines ensure that the general living conditions remain satisfactory.

Non-Government labourers live either in the permanent Chinese shop-house type or in the semi-permanent or temporary Malay house type of dwelling. Regular inspection of the shop-house type of dwelling, which is almost exclusively occupied by Chinese, is carried out by the Sanitary Board staff, to see that no overcrowding takes place.

The Malay type of labourer's house is usually built off the ground and constructed of plank-floors and walls with palm-thatch roofs. As a rule these Malay houses are erected by the owner of the land and rented out to tenants, but not infrequently the sub-lessee pays a ground rent to the landlord and erects the building himself. Houses of this type erected on the outskirts of towns have until recently normally been of a temporary type; however, most Sanitary Boards nowadays insist on the erection of houses of a more permanent pattern and a considerable improvement may, therefore, confidently be looked to for the future.

All persons living within Sanitary Board areas receive in return for assessment payments certain services in respect of water, drainage, anti-malarial works, lighting, scavenging and conservancy.

Encouraging results have followed efforts to improve housing conditions in Sanitary Board areas by the giving of free advice to prospective builders on construction and siting problems.

Digitized by Google

Housing Outside Sanitary Board Areas.

(1).—Accommodation for the salaried or employer class.

All houses erected by Government conform to some standard type plan. There is no restriction of design or construction on private individuals, for the most part estate or mine managers and fairly well-to-do Asiatics, but their houses are as a rule of permanent construction with ample accommodation and ventilation.

(2).—Accommodation for the wage-earning or labouring class.

Government employees are housed in rent-free lines or barracks, which follow standard type plans as in the case of similar buildings within Sanitary Board areas. Such lines have cement drains, wells and latrines and are generally sited in a small area of land where the labourers grow vegetables and other products for their own consumption. The minimum dimensions of the rooms are $10' \times 10'$ and rules exist for the prevention of overcrowding.

Periodical inspections of these lines are carried out by officers of the Labour and Health Departments and also by Public Works Engineers in each district.

Housing accommodation for labourers, other than Government labourers, may be divided into two classes, viz. : housing of labourers on (*a*) estates and mines and (*b*) in villages or elsewhere.

The housing of estate labourers is controlled under the Labour Code. Labourers (Indians, Javanese and Chinese) under European management are accommodated in rent-free lines erected at estate expense. The lines which are usually of the permanent type are built in blocks of roughly a dozen rooms apiece, or in rows of detached or semi-detached huts, with cement floors (if built on the ground level), cement drains, plank walls, tiled roofs, and an adequate drinking and bathing water supply and latrines.

On mines the lines are generally of a temporary nature made of palm thatch with earth or concrete floor, and constructed to provide the maximum amount of coolness and ventilation; though with the contemporary growth of motor-bus services an increasing proportion of mining labourers live in villages or towns near their work. Water and lighting is provided free of charge

Digitized by Google

by the mine owners. Sanitary arrangements are primitive but latrines are provided in all cases. Officers of the Mines Department are nowadays responsible for inspection of sanitary conditions on mines.

The health of the labour forces on estates and mines has been very good and there have been no serious epidemics during the year.

No control is exercised over accommodation for labourers other than those mentioned above. The majority are Malays living on their own land; their houses are of such design, structure, and size as the owner can afford. The Malays usually choose for their house a site where air, light and water are abundantly to hand, and this explains to a great extent their general good health and freedom from diseases such as pulmonary tuberculosis, so commonly found in Chinese tenements. The District Officer with the help of the Malay headman of the sub-district, after noting on his periodic visits any malarial or insanitary conditions which are particularly likely to endanger the health of the neighbourhood, takes steps to abate the nuisance. Of the non-Malay labourers, Chinese comprise by far the greatest part. They are engaged chiefly in vegetable gardening, timber cutting, pig-rearing or in the cultivation of small holdings of rubber, coconuts, tapioca, and other products. If they work on their own land they live in small temporary huts; if engaged in timber cutting, in large temporary communal sheds. While on the one hand the sanitary surroundings of such dwellings leave much to be desired and from their remoteness no regular inspection by Health Officers is possible, on the other hand the open air life and the extremely airy construction of their temporary dwellings enable these Chinese labourers to maintain a high level of health.

Building Societies.

There are no building societies in the Federated Malay States but there are in existence the Planters' Loans Board and a large number of smaller co-operative societies which in their initial stages rely for help and guidance on the Government Co-operative Department. Members may, with certain restrictions, borrow money from the co-operative society to which they subscribe, and it is hoped that many will continue to make use of this opportunity to erect houses of their own.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VI.

Production.

MINERALS.

The average domestic quota under the International Tin Control Scheme for the year 1936 was 67 per cent. compared with 42.25 per cent. for 1935. The following table gives a comparison of the domestic quotas for each period of the years 1935 and 1936:

	1935.	1936.
January-March	28.3% ...	65%
April-June	32.4% ...	62%
July-September	46.7% ...	65%
October-December	62% ...	76%

Exports were calculated throughout the year on an assay value of 75.5 per cent. tin.

The following table gives a comparison between the international and domestic quotas during 1936:

	International. %	F.M.S. domestic. %
January-March	90 ...	65
April-June	85 ...	62
July-September	90 ...	65
October-December	105 ...	76

The assay values of Malayan ores, from the inception of the restriction scheme, have been as follows:

March to December, 1931	75.1%
1932	75.38%
1933	75.47%
1934	75.39%
1935	75.56%
1936	75.54%

At the end of 1935, Malaya carried forward an underproduction of 68 tons tin which was changed to an overproduction of 193½ tons tin at the end of the year under review (this figure may differ by one or two tons from the final International Tin Committee's figures).

The Federated Malay States domestic quota represents an amount of tin which is available out of Malaya's standard tonnage of 71,940 tons, after making due allowance for exports of tin-ore from the Unfederated Malay States and Malacca, tin-ore from "dulang" washers, Sakai workings and confiscated ore. The amount then available for the domestic quota is

Digitized by Google

expressed as a percentage of the total annual assessments of all mines producing tin-ore in the Federated Malay States. At the end of the year under review this total stood at 95,199 tons metal calculated at 75.5 per cent. tin-in-ore. The Unfederated Malay States have an annual assessment of 2,413 tons tin, subject to the International Tin Committee quota release; and flat rates, totalling 385 tons tin, have been given to Malacca, Perlis and Kelantan. All flat rates are to be abolished after the expiration of the agreement on 31st December, 1936.

TIN-ORE.

The methods of mining for this mineral ore in the Federated Malay States, in order of their importance from an output viewpoint, are as follows:

Dredging, gravel pumping, hydraulicing, lode mining and open-cast mining. A small amount was won by alluvial shafting or "lombong Siam" and 1,028 tons tin (22,866 pikuls tin-ore) were won by "dulang" washers.

The exports of tin and tin-in-ore from the Federated Malay States for the last five years, together with the domestic quota releases, were as follows:

	Tons.	Average F.M.S. quota releases.
1932	28,363 ...	32%
1933	23,926 ...	24.50%
1934	36,385 ...	34%
1935	40,749 ...	42.35%
1936	64,719 ...	67%

The following table gives the prices ruling during the last five years in dollars per pikul tin and sterling per ton tin:

—	1932.						1933.						1934.					
	£	s.	d.	$	c.		£	s.	d.	$	c.		£	s.	d.	$	c.	
Highest ...	159	7	6	81	75		228	17	6	124	00		242	7	6	121	00	
Average ...	137	14	10	69	76		194	15	2	99	99		229	6	0	114	41	
Lowest	104	12	6	52	87½		142	0	0	71	75		222	10	0	110	62½	
Fluctuation ...	54	15	0	28	87½		86	17	6	52	25		19	17	6	10	37½	

—	1935.						1936.					
	£	s.	d.	$	c.		£	s.	d.	$	c.	
Highest	229	5	0	116	25		241	10	0	121	25	
Average	217	16	3	111	32		200	5	9	100	39	
Lowest	204	10	0	105	50		172	5	0	85	62½	
Fluctuation	24	15	0	10	75		69	5	0	35	52½	

Digitized by Google

GOLD.

The production of gold was larger than usual, and most of the increase was accounted for by the exploitation of alluvial deposits, in Perak, Pahang, and Selangor. More than 500 ounces were obtained as a side line to tin dredging in Selangor.

The Raub Australian Gold Mine is the premier producer, its 1936 production being 71.09 per cent. of the Federated Malay States total production of 37,779 ozs.

The deposits occur in quartz veins which have impregnated the faulted shales of the Raub series; they have been exploited to a depth of 1,050 feet. There has been considerable activity in the mining of alluvial gold when it is associated with tin-ore.

The following table shows the output of gold for the last five years:

	Lode. ozs.	Alluvial. ozs.	Total. ozs.
1932 ...	27,755 ...	1,541 ...	29,296
1933 ...	26,358 ...	2,678 ...	29,036
1934 ...	24,310 ...	5,911 ...	30,221
1935 ...	22,909 ...	6,862 ...	29,771
1936 ...	29,449 ...	8,330 ...	37,779

COAL.

The only working coal mine in the Federated Malay States is situated at Batu Arang, Selangor, 25 miles north of Kuala Lumpur. The coal has a pitch-black colour and breaks with a conchoidal fracture. It is fairly hard and has a specific gravity of 1.2 to 1.3. It burns with a long flame. An unfortunate characteristic, however, is its tendency to spontaneous combustion, making it unreliable as bunker coal. It is non-coking. The output for 1936 was 502,823 tons.

Mining started in 1913 and up to date 7,376,000 tons have been removed. Of the very large tonnage of reserves, some 10,000,000 are developed and readily available for extraction.

TUNGSTEN ORES.

Scheelite, calcium tungstate, is mined on a large scale at Kramat Pulai, near Ipoh. This mine is considered one of the most important scheelite mines in the world to-day, but, unfortunately, recent investigation has shown that only a few more years of reserves are known to exist.

Digitized by Google

The outputs of scheelite for the last five years, 99 per cent. of which is produced by Kramat Pulai Limited, were as follows:

1932	302	tons
1933	918	,,
1934	1,508	,,
1935	1,365	,,
1936	1,364	,,

Wolfram, an iron and manganese tungstate, is mined on a small scale in Perak, Selangor and Negri Sembilan. The outputs for the last five years were:

1932	Nil	
1933	33	tons
1934	28½	,,
1935	8	,,
1936	3	,,

Tungsten is a most valuable metal for case-hardening steel. Tungsten steel is very tough and possesses the valuable physical property of retaining its temper at a great heat. It is used in the manufacture of high-speed tool-steel, filaments for electric glow lamps, as a substitute for platinum in making contact points, as a mordant in the dyeing industry, and, in the form of sodium tungstate, it is used in impregnating wood to render it fireproof.

GALENA.

Galena, a sulphide of lead and generally argentiferous, has been mined on a very small scale in Pahang.

The deposit occurs in a schist-limestone contact zone. Development work ceased in January. Steps, however, are being taken to instal machinery and restart the mine.

In the year 1935, 33 tons were exported to England and during 1936, 3½ tons.

FLUORSPAR OR FLUORITE.

Fluorspar or fluorite, a compound of calcium and fluorine, occurs associated with scheelite at Kramat Pulai Ltd.'s mine, where, it is estimated, there is a stock of 50,000 tons. There is little or no market for this mineral, the price offered being so low that it does not pay to separate it. Twenty tons of fluorspar were sent to England for the purpose of discovering whether or not there would be a market for this type of ore. On analysis it was found to be too low in fluorine content and therefore difficult to secure a market. The Kramat Pulai Co. do not intend exporting further supplies.

Digitized by Google

ILMENITE.

10,314 tons of ilmenite were exported, a big increase on last year's figures, but the amount is small compared with the production from beach sand in Travancore State, India, whence 127,051 tons were obtained in 1935. Ilmenite is the chief constituent of amang, a waste-product of tin mining in Malaya that is left as dumps in the tin fields in amounts to be read in hundreds of thousands of tons, but the comparatively high cost of transport prevents Malaya from being a serious rival to India in this new industry. So little was this understood by a certain newspaper (not published in Malaya), that it printed an article making erroneous statements about Malayan mines working day and night to cope with the increased demand for ilmenite, and about the sudden wealth that ilmenite has brought to native miners, statements that are without any basis in fact.

CHINA CLAY OR KAOLIN.

China clay, or kaolin, is worked on a small scale near Tapah in Perak. The following are the outputs for the last three years:

1934.		1935.		1936.
164 tons	...	91 tons	...	121 tons

Kaolin is used as a filler in paper and fabric manufacture, as a filler in rubber goods, and in the manufacture of pottery and porcelain.

AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture and tin mining continue to be the two most important industries in the Federated Malay States. Crops are grown on properties ranging in size from small-holdings of between one-half and ten acres to large estates varying in extent from 100 to several thousand acres.

The following review of agriculture in the Federated Malay States in 1936 is divided into three parts: A—crops grown on large estates and small-holdings: these include the major permanent crops, rubber and coconuts, together with coffee, bananas, pineapples and tea. B—crop grown solely by large estates, i.e., the oil palm, and C—crops grown exclusively by Asiatics, which comprise the important rice crop, tobacco, arecanuts, fruit and vegetables. In some instances only Malayan statistics are available, while in others the agriculture of the Federated Malay States is so interlocked with industries in other parts of the country that it is impossible to avoid reference to facts relating to areas outside the Federated Malay States.

Digitized by Google

A.—CROPS GROWN ON LARGE ESTATES AND ON SMALL-HOLDINGS.

Rubber.—The total area under rubber in the Federated Malay States at the end of 1936 was estimated to be 1,576,410 acres made up as follows:

—	1	2	3	4
	Estates of over 100 acres.	Holdings of less than 100 acres.	Total.	Increase or decrease compared with 1935.
	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.
Perak	307,901	244,304	552,205	— 1,944
Selangor ...	353,569	133,295	486,864	— 857
Negri Sembilan	285,943	86,274	372,217	+ 442
Pahang... ...	89,237	75,887	165,124	— 991
	1,036,650	539,760	1,576,410	— 3,350

The immature area on estates amounted to 81,156 acres, that on small-holdings is not known.

The area of budded rubber in the Federated Malay States amounted to 111,369 acres as compared with 106,313 acres in 1935; it was divided among 402 estates. Of this area, 63,614 acres had reached tappable age.

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION.

The production of rubber during the past four years is shown below:

PRODUCTION OF RUBBER IN THE F.M.S., 1933-1936.
(IN TONS.)

State.	By estates of 100 acres and over.			
	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Perak	44,320	46,612	41,917	39,925
Selangor	51,239	55,754	47,235	45,633
Negri Sembilan	36,918	37,973	35,885	31,337
Pahang	4,886	7,078	8,030	8,110
Total ...	137,363	147,417	133,067	125,005

Digitized by Google

State.	By small-holdings of less than 100 acres.			
	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Perak	110,848	104,141	67,380	62,596
Selangor				
Negri Sembilan				
Pahang				
Total ...	110,848	104,141	67,380	62,596

State.	Total.			
	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Perak	248,211	251,558	200,447	187,601
Selangor				
Negri Sembilan				
Pahang				
Total ...	248,211	251,558	200,447	187,601

Local consumption of rubber in Malaya amounted to only 435 tons, so that practically the whole production was exported. The majority of the crop continued to be produced in the form of standard smoked sheet, but appreciable quantities of rubber were again exported in the form of latex; the total quantity exported from Malaya in this form during the year was estimated to amount to 16,937 tons (on the basis of dry rubber content) as compared with 13,150 tons in 1935.

Rubber Regulation.—The International Rubber Regulation Agreement continued in force throughout the year. Under the agreement, Malaya received a quota of 569,000 tons for 1936 as compared with 538,000 tons for 1935. The share of Malaya's quota allotted to the Federated Malay States by the Controller of Rubber in 1936 was 291,800 as compared with 283,560 in the previous year.

Conditions on Estates and Small-Holdings.

In spite of the relatively low percentage of the quota allowed for export, the price of the product has enabled almost all estates to produce rubber at a profit. Many estates have carried out improvements on their properties which had perforce been postponed during the difficult period prior to the introduction of the present rubber regulation scheme.

Under the International Rubber Regulation Agreement planting of new areas is prohibited; in consequence no new areas were planted with rubber during 1936. On estates

Digitized by Google

considerable areas were replanted during the year, methods of clearing ranging from simple felling to clean clearing with complete root extraction. There was also a marked increase in the amount of attention shown to manuring, particularly in replanted areas, and to the use of cover crops.

The area out of tapping on estates amounted to about 229,593 acres at the end of the year. Surveys of the area of small-holdings out of tapping were made and indicated that about 40 per cent. of the total area was untapped during the first three quarters of the year and about 37 per cent. at the end of December. One of the indirect results of restriction is the growth of trade in export coupons and export rights without rubber and in rubber not covered by coupons or export rights. At certain times of the year coupons have been in strong demand in certain localities by dealers who have had rubber on hand not covered by export vouchers. Prices for coupons ranged from about $23 a picul equivalent in January to as high as $31 per picul equivalent in December. Prices of uncouponed rubber ranged between $3.5 and $6 a picul in January to from $13 to $18 a picul at the close of the year.

During the slump the owners of holdings usually tapped their own trees and were obliged to tap drastically in order to get a living. With the improved price of rubber, labourers are hired to tap often on contract, without regular supervision, and they do not act on any advice given to them. The result is that on a large proportion of the small-holdings which are in tapping the bark consumption is still two or three times that allowed on well-managed estates. The situation generally is, however, relieved by the fact that small-holders often sell their "coupons" and do not tap systematically.

Budgrafting has been done on a few holdings, replanting is under consideration on several, and some of the more progressive small-holders are considering manuring. There is also more willingness to spend money on the control of disease. Formerly the only disease to be treated regularly was mouldy rot, the treatment of which is compulsory. Now the control of root and branch diseases is receiving attention, and will help greatly in prolonging the life of small-holding rubber.

Pests and Diseases.—The usual seasonal work in the field gave further support to the conclusion that weather and environment are of paramount importance when considering the occurrence and virulence of the leaf mildew fungus *Oidium Heveae.*

Digitized by Google

In general it can be said that the foliage and seed set in the old rubber was even better than last year and that the incidence of *Oidium Heveae* in the new leaf was practically nil up to the 10th March, and thereafter was mild and occurred only in the later wintering trees. Various preparations of sulphur dust for use against oidium were tested.

During the dry weather experienced from February onwards and even at the end of the year, when heavy rains are normally the rule, the leaf spot fungi *Helminthosporium Heveae*, *Gloeosporium Heveae*, *Colletotrichum sp.* and *Scolecotrichum* continued to give considerable trouble in nurseries and in young rubber in the field.

The thrips pest of leaves of rubber trees was again prevalent on many estates in the west coastal districts of Malaya this year but in very few cases was sulphur dusting to check this pest really needed.

The All-Malayan Small-Holders' Rubber Competition was held in August, whereat selected prize-winning exhibits from District Shows were finally judged at the Central Competition at the Malayan Exhibition in Kuala Lumpur.

The Asiatic staff of the Small-Holders' Advisory Service which is maintained by the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya now numbers ten officers in the Federated Malay States distributed as follows: Perak 4, Selangor 3, Negri Sembilan 1, Pahang 2. Of these, six are Malays, two Chinese and two Indians. The result of their work has already become clearly evident, for reports of improvement in the preparation of rubber, in tapping methods, disease control and general upkeep of the crop have been received from all the Agricultural Officers. The cheap form of smoke cabinet advocated for small-holders has proved capable in actual use of producing smoked sheet up to estate standard.

There are, however, difficulties in regard to the marketing of this product, as in some localities the margin in price ruling locally between unsmoked and smoked sheet is so narrow that the small-holder preferred to sell unsmoked sheet to his local dealer rather than to spend time on smoking his product. This naturally applies specially to places where the small-holder can find profitable employment when not engaged on work connected with his own holding.

Digitized by Google

In other localities an apparently satisfactory arrangement has grown up whereby the local dealer provides facilities for his small-holder clients to smoke their rubber at a fixed charge. Such charges vary from 50 cents to $1.20 a picul, according to the machines and apparatus made use of by the small-holder. The machines include mangles for rolling the rubber, a somewhat expensive item for the owner of a very small holding to purchase for himself. An advantage of this system is the production of a fairly uniform product, as the result of comparative uniformity in the matter of straining and coagulating the latex as well as in rolling and smoking the sheet. Where this arrangement is established on a fully satisfactory footing there would seem to be no reason for changing over to individual smoking on the smoke cabinets.

The difference in the local price between unsmoked and smoked sheet varies from about 80 cents to $3 a picul. In general, it appears probable that a difference of $1 a picul is sufficient to make it just worth while for a small-holder to use a smoke cabinet in those areas where he has little opportunity to obtain outside employment and can get his firewood free of cost.

In areas where the price difference is $2 or more a picul, smoke cabinets are becoming popular and, once erected, are kept in constant use. The possibility of improved marketing in areas where the present premium is low is receiving attention, and there are reasons for believing that better prices for smoked sheet may gradually be established as more small local dealers tend to adopt the practice of grading their product which they have not done hitherto.

An examination of the position regarding coagulants used by small-holders has led to the general conclusion that, from the small-holders' view point, sulphuric acid is more economical than formic acid, as it is about one-third of the price of the latter, and the small-holder obtains the same price for his rubber whether coagulated with sulphuric or formic acid. It would seem that legislative action to prevent the use of sulphuric acid as a rubber coagulant would only be justified if it can be shown that its use renders the product definitely inferior. Actually the final product is not inferior provided that the sulphuric acid be not used (as it often is) in great excess. It is thus possible that the official policy in the past has partly defeated its own ends. For so long as the use of sulphuric acid was entirely frowned upon, it was felt to be inconsistent to

Digitized by Google

give instructions about its correct use. The new policy is that while formic acid is still to be advocated as the best coagulant, instructions are also given about the dilutions and quantities of sulphuric acid that should be used by those who prefer to continue to employ that cheaper coagulant.

A scheme was initiated in Pahang at the beginning of the year, having as its object improvement in the preparation of small-holders' rubber. The essential feature of the scheme is that dealers are required to exhibit samples of the various grades of commercial rubber with a statement of prices for each grade. It is claimed that this scheme, coupled with the propaganda of Asiatic Rubber Instructors and departmental officers, has resulted in marked improvement in the product sold by small-holders, especially in the riverine areas, where the product formerly made was of a very low grade.

Coconuts and Coconut Products.—Coconuts are grown both as an estate crop and also on numerous small-holdings throughout the Federated Malay States. Coconut estates are confined to the Bagan Datoh district of Lower Perak and the coastal area of the district of Krian in the State of Perak and to the coastal areas of the districts of Kuala Selangor and Kuala Langat in the State of Selangor. The estimated acreages under cultivation in the crop are shown below:

	Areas grown on estates of over 100 acres.	Areas grown on small-holdings less than 100 acres.	Total.
Perak	52,345	63,841	116,186
Selangor ...	37,590	72,681	110,271
Negri Sembilan	1,069	4,930	5,999
Pahang ...	2,842	14,729	17,571
Total ...	93,846	156,181	250,027

The cultivation of this crop for copra production is only extensively practised in the coastal area of Selangor, where there are about 70,000 acres of coconut small-holdings, and in the Bagan Datoh area of Perak (approximately 32,000 acres). On the East Coast of Pahang copra making is practised on a small scale. There is a considerable trade in fresh nuts from small-holdings on coastal areas to inland districts where local supplies are deficient.

Digitized by Google

The total annual consumption of coconuts in Malaya is estimated to be 100 nuts per head of the whole population per annum, while it can be safely assumed that in the coconut-growing areas consumption of coconuts amounts to one nut per head of population per day.

Very little use is made of the by-products of the coconut industry in Malaya; the production of coconut coir as a small-holders' industry is practically non-existent, neither is coconut charcoal made to any extent.

Prices for coconut products showed some increase during January, which, however, was not maintained. Prices again improved gradually from the beginning of June and rose sharply in November and December. The price of "Sundried" copra in Singapore ranged from $4.50 to $9.50 per picul. The comparative average prices of coconut products in Singapore per picul were as follows:

	Sundried copra.	Mixed.	Coconut oil.	Cake.
	$	$	$	$
1933 ...	3.90	3.41	7.70	1.65
1934 ...	2.94	2.44	5.96	1.28
1935 ...	4.54	4.15	9.13	1.55
1936 ...	5.81	5.38	11.96	1.67

An increasing proportion of the copra production is converted into oil and cake within the Peninsula for local consumption and for export. The nett quantity of oil exported from Malaya shows a further increase from 35,911 tons in 1935 to 46,507 tons in 1936. Of the latter, only 92 tons were exported from the Federated Malay States.

Conditions on Estates and Small-Holdings.

The improved price of copra allowed more attention to be given to cultivation both on estates and on small-holdings.

Research work designed with the object of improving the quality of Malayan copra has been continced by the Department of Agriculture together with active propaganda for the dissemination of information among small-holders particularly with regard to the erection and use of improved kilns. Results have been seen in a marked improvement in the quality of Malayan copra both on estates and, particularly, on small-holdings in Perak, Selangor and Pahang.

Digitized by Google

The tendency of recent years for the small-holder to prepare his own copra instead of selling nuts to dealers has been fully maintained. It has become increasingly evident, however, that the problem of marketing requires further investigation.

The seasonal reduction in crop which normally occurs in August and September was unusually marked and prolonged in all areas and production had not returned to normal by the end of the year.

Pineapples.—The area under pineapples in the Federated Malay States at the end of 1936 was 11,034 acres as compared with 9,525 acres in 1935. Of the total planted area, 8,445 acres were in Selangor, the only State in which the fruit is grown for export; there is an increase of 1,000 acres under this crop in Selangor. To some extent this is a replacement of catch-crop pineapples which will be cut out to allow of the development of the main crop. In the other three States the fresh fruits are sold for local consumption.

Formerly pineapples were cultivated exclusively as a catch-crop between young rubber and were employed as a means of cheapening the cost of bringing rubber into bearing. The industry, however, made such strides and the export trade in canned pineapples assumed such large dimensions, that, with the cessation of rubber planting, the conversion of pineapple growing to a main crop basis became a matter of importance. The transition is of a fundamental character and necessitates complete alteration in the methods of cultivation if the lands on which the crop is grown are to be maintained in a satisfactory state of fertility.

In the three canning factories operating in Selangor great improvements in manufacturing methods have taken place. This has been due both to the legislation enacted in 1934 to enforce standard sanitary measures and to the work of the Canning Officer who was appointed to the Department of Agriculture in January, 1936.

The average Singapore prices per case of 48 tins of 1½ lbs. each of Malayan pineapples were as follows:

Year.	Cubes.	Sliced flat.	Sliced tall.	Fresh fruit per 100.	
				First quality.	Second quality.
	$	$	$	$	$
1934	3.10	3.01	3.19	2.52	1.38
1935	3.47	3.27	3.51	3.25	2.52
1936	3.29	3.09	3.29	3.29	2.78

Digitized by Google

The Pineapple Experiment Station at Lim Chu Kang, Singapore, which is supported by the three Governments of the Straits Settlements, Johore and the Federated Malay States continued operations during the year and further experiments on cultivation and manuring have been carried out. Briefly, the indications are that if pineapples are to be grown profitably as a sole crop, manuring must be on a fairly generous scale and planting distances must be closer than those normally adopted in Malaya. The original selections of 134 plants made last year were brought up to 140 and characteristics of the fruits reaped were recorded.

Coffee.—Coffee is grown both on estates and small-holdings either as a sole crop or else interplanted with other cultivations. In the Federated Malay States there are 12,169 acres under the crop, the most important centre of production being Selangor with 7,744 acres; the crop is grown by numerous Malay and Chinese small-holders particularly in the coastal district of Kuala Langat.

Practically none of the coffee produced in Malaya is exported. In 1936 the imports into the Federated Malay States amounted to 793,829 lbs. valued at $84,237.

The Singapore prices for coffee declined by about $1.50 per picul below those of the previous year. The average prices for the different grades were as follows: Palembang $8.90 per picul and Sourabaya $14.15 per picul. The prices of locally produced coffee vary considerably on the local market according to the variety. Robusta now fetches about $11 per picul wholesale, and the Liberian type about $17 per picul. The prices for Robusta and Liberian coffee were too low to render the cultivation of this crop profitable under estate conditions.

In the lowland districts the varieties of coffee cultivated are either of the Liberian or the Robusta type. In the Cameron Highlands area trials have been in progress for some years with the cultivation of Arabian coffee and there are about 317 acres planted under the crop in this area.

In addition to the coffee leaf disease, *Hamelia vestratrix*, which was prevalent on Arabian coffee in Cameron Highlands, the red root disease *Ganoderma pseudoferreum* was recorded on coffee bushes on a small estate in Selangor.

Digitized by Google

Tea.—The area under tea in the Federated Malay States at the end of 1936 was 2,352 acres as compared with 2,279 acres in 1935. Of this total 1,440 acres were planted on upland estates mostly in Cameron Highlands and 912 acres on lowland estates on the plains in Selangor and Perak and on small-holdings owned by Chinese in Selangor and Negri Sembilan. Existing tea estates have 7,766 acres of reserve land. Including the two experiment stations of the Department of Agriculture, there were ten estates making black tea of which four were upland estates and six lowland. All these estates supplied the local market and in addition seven estates exported tea for sale in London. The retail price for this tea locally varied from 60-75 cents per lb. according to grade, although green tea of inferior quality made on small-holdings was retailed at about half these figures.

The total production of tea is not known. Experiments at the Central Experiment Station, Serdang, with an adequate application of fertilisers resulted in an average yield of 1,200 lbs. of made tea per annum from ten-year-old bushes. Average yields of 892 lbs. of made tea per acre per annum were obtained during the year from bushes 8 years old at the Experiment Station at Tanah Rata, Cameron Highlands. This represents an increase of over 150 lbs. of made tea per acre as compared with the yields of last year.

Six commercial consignments from the Tanah Rata Experiment Station amounting to a total of 30,002 lbs. of made tea were shipped to London during the year. The average price obtained on the London market was 12.70*d.*

Four shipments of lowland tea were made to the London market from the Central Experiment Station, Serdang, amounting to a total of 15,510 lbs., the remainder of the produce being sold locally. The average price realised for the shipments to London was 11.74*d.* per lb., a figure little inferior to the price obtained for Cameron Highlands tea.

Experiments on cultivation, manuring and manufacture of tea were continued at both the Government Experimental Stations.

Protracted negotiations between the Government and the International Tea Committee culminated in an agreement to limit the planting of new areas in Malaya during the period of

Digitized by Google

the agreement (to 31st March, 1938) to 3,000 acres, and to prohibit the export of tea seed. Legislation to give effect to this agreement was enacted and came into force early in 1937.

Derris.—The increasing interest in the cultivation of derris (tuba root) for export has been maintained throughout the year. The crop is grown for use as an insecticide and finds considerable employment in the form of spray washes for the control of plant pests and as a constituent for cattle and sheep dips. The plant from which derris is prepared is a native of the Peninsula and its toxic properties have long been known to the Malay population among whom its use as a fish poison is traditional; its development as an article of commerce for the preparation of insecticide is, however, a matter of comparatively recent growth.

The area planted under this crop in the Federated Malay States at the end of 1936 was 3,573 acres, an increase of 1,852 acres as compared with 1935.

The dried root is sold on two different bases of its toxic content, namely, rotenone content to the American market and ether extract value for other markets. It has been shown that the toxic content of the root varies considerably according to the strain that is planted and a variety has been found to occur in the Changi District of Singapore, of which the toxic content is exceptionally high and for cuttings of which there has been a very large demand.

The average Singapore prices for derris were as follows:

Year.	Sold on rotenone basis.	Sold on ether extract basis.
	$	$
1934	37.42 ...	28.75
1935	49.58 ...	36.88
1936	48.58 ...	31.54

Extensive experimental work was carried out by the Department of Agriculture during the year on the investigation of the toxic content of various strains of derris and on the establishment of clones of high toxic value. Work was also performed on the separation of the various toxic constituents.

Digitized by Google

B.—CROP GROWN ENTIRELY ON LARGE ESTATES.

Oil Palms.—The total area planted under oil palms and reserve land at the end of 1936 in the Federated Malay States was as follows:

	Acres.	Reserve land unplanted.
Perak	17.405 ...	8,051
Selangor	13,790 ...	3,204
Negri Sembilan	1,903 ...	1,940
Pahang	1,008 ...	534
Total ...	34,106 ...	13,729

This represents an increase of 1,031 acres in the area planted as compared with 1935.

All of the produce was exported with the exception of small quantities of oil which were used for the manufacture of soap. Production of oil palm and kernels in the Federated Malay States during the past five years is shown in the following table:

Year.	Palm oil. Tons.	Kernels. Tons.
1932	7,076 ...	1,212
1933	9,333 ...	1,600
1934	12,965 ...	2,013
1935	17,339 ...	2,711
1936	23,081 ...	3,791

It is to be anticipated that the output of the industry will show considerable annual increases for some years to come as the more newly planted areas come into full bearing.

During the year prices of palm oil and palm kernels fluctuated very considerably. The average prices for the year were as follows: Palm oil £19.18*s*.2*d*. per ton and palm kernels £11.0*s*.11*d*. per ton. There are now 21 oil palm factories operating in the Federated Malay States (including the factory on the Central Experiment Station, Serdang).

Experimental work on manuring of the crop and on the breeding of improved varieties by hybridisation and selection was continued throughout the year.

Digitized by Google

C.—CROPS GROWN EXCLUSIVELY BY ASIATICS.

Rice.—The area planted with rice in the Federated Malay States during the season 1935-36 amounted to approximately 178,020 acres of which 174,250 was under "wet" rice and 3,770 under "dry" rice. It is grown exclusively by Asiatics on small-holdings of an average size of 2½ acres each. It has been estimated that a holding of this size will, under Malayan conditions, yield sufficient rice to support a family of six people and will leave some surplus available for sale.

The crop is cultivated both on coastal alluvial lands and also in the bottoms of shallow valleys which are the characteristic features of the inland regions in many parts of Malaya. This gives rise to two alternative types of rice fields. On the one hand there are continuous stretches of rice such as are seen in the coastal areas of Krian and on the other hand a series of separate areas of varying size in the valleys.

Padi cultivation has existed in Malaya since very early times and there is no question that, where suitable soil conditions exist, Malaya possesses rice lands which compare favourably with those of any other part of the world. It is a striking fact that despite the much higher pecuniary returns that have at times been offered by other crops, especially during the years of high prices for rubber and coconuts, padi cultivation has persisted. There is little doubt that this persistence has been materially facilitated by the belief which exists in the minds of the Malays that if a country produces a substantial part of its own food supply, it is much less likely to be affected by fluctuations in the price of export staples. The truth of this view was demonstrated during the years of acute financial depression when in those areas where rice production predominated, distress was far less acute than where peasants depended for their existence on the production of crops for sale and export.

The encouragement of rice cultivation had for long been sympathetically regarded by the Malayan Government, but in 1930 the need for more active steps to encourage the local production of rice received a measure of attention and a committee was appointed to make recommendations for the extension and improvement of the rice industry. As a result various measures have been undertaken, including particularly the establishment of a separate Irrigation Department, the provision of funds for the construction of works for the improve-

Digitized by Google

ment of water control in padi fields, the extended provision of scientific services for the investigation and improvement of padi cultivation and for the instruction of the raiat.

Contrary to the custom which prevails in many rice producing countries, the cultivation of one rice crop per annum is standard practice throughout the Malay Peninsula, as opposed to the cultivation of two or more crops per annum which obtains in parts of India, China and the Netherlands Indies. Experimental work on the possibility of growing two rice crops per annum in Malaya indicates that it is doubtful whether this practice would lead to increased returns proportionate to the extra labour and expense involved.

Practically everywhere in Malaya the transplanting system of cultivation is practised, the grains being sown in seed beds and the plants transplanted into the fields when they are about six weeks old. The methods employed in raising seedlings vary in different parts of Malaya according to conditions; in some places dry nurseries are sown, in others wet nurseries are used. The preparation of land for planting is performed either by ploughs or by hand cultivation. In the former case buffaloes are extensively used, while in the latter the implements employed comprise the short-handled hoe, locally known as the *changkol*, and the *tajak*, a heavy scythe-like implement with a short broad blade. *Tajak* cultivation is the simplest form employed. Transplanting is carried out by means of an implement known locally as "kuku kambing" (Lit. "goat's hoof") while the padi is reaped either by the sickle or by the hand-knife known as the *Tuai* or *Pisau Menuai*.

The area planted with rice in the Federated Malay States in the season 1935-36 and the total yields are shown below:

State.	Wet.		Dry.		Total.	
	Acres.	Gantangs.	Acres.	Gantangs.	Acres.	Gantangs.
Perak	90,670	29,215,000	2,290	291,000	92,960	29,506,000
Selangor ...	18,380	4,503,000	460	70,000	18,840	4,573,000
Negri Sembilan...	33,850	10,414,000	40	4,000	33,890	10,418,000
Pahang	31,350	7,275,000	980	183,000	32,330	7,458,000
Total ...	174,250	51,407,000	3,770	584,000	178,020	51,955,000

Equivalent in tons of rice=74,221.

The total area planted was 1,270 acres more than in 1935 but the total crop harvested was 1,031,000 gantangs or 1,473 tons less than in the previous year.

Digitized by Google

During the season 1935-36 the reduction in the total crop obtained from wet padi, notwithstanding an increased planted area, was the result of much reduced yields in all the States owing to inclement weather. In the inland region the year 1935 was characterised by unusually dry weather in June and July and very wet weather in the second half of August, followed by an unusually dry September and heavy rain in October. The check to growth in September was undoubtedly one of the factors responsible for lower yields in Krian. Floods in the last quarter of the year destroyed practically the whole crop in the riverine areas of Perak. In the Panchang Bedena area of Selangor the August rain destroyed many young plants in the nurseries and necessitated re-sowing. In Temerloh and Lipis districts of Pahang the delayed and light monsoon rains led to a smaller area being planted and reduced the yields generally for the State.

In the season 1936-37 the prolonged dry period caused some water shortage in Krian which resulted in insufficient rotting down of the cut vegetation in the fields. Consequently growth in the early stages was poor, especially in the south-east of the district, and this check has affected subsequent growth. From the same cause planting was late in parts of Province Wellesley and in the Panchang Bedena area of Selangor where water was scarce in the fields until the first week of November. Floods again damaged areas in Malacca during the last quarter of the year. In Pahang, planting was late through heavy rain in March and April delaying the reduction of water in the *paya*. Planting was similarly late in Kelantan. Prospects for the crop are therefore only fair in most of the chief padi areas of Malaya. A serious outbreak of *Calandra oryzae*, the weevil which attacks stored grain, was reported in the Government Rice Mill at Temerloh in Pahang, but fairly satisfactory control in the mill building was attained.

The All-Malayan Padi Competition, organised by the Malayan Agri-Horticultural Association working in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture, was held in August, for the third year in succession. The total number of entries from all parts of the country were 139 as compared with 126 in 1935. The high standard of previous years was maintained and there was a large number of entries with which little fault could be found.

Digitized by Google

The average wholesale price of rice during 1936 was $3.63 per picul which was 3 per cent. less than that recorded for 1935. The range of prices of padi in Malaya was from 5 cents a gantang to 15 cents a gantang. The average price at the Government Rice Mill in Krian was $1.91 per pikul as compared with $1.94 per pikul in 1935.

In Krian measures for the control of rats in the padi area have been maintained throughout the year and as a result rat damage to the crop has been negligible. In the new areas of Sungei Manik in Perak and Panchang Bedena in Selangor, however, rat damage was considerable on account of the presence of large quantities of jungle stumps and uncleared areas which harbour these vermin.

In Perak, the Government mills at Bagan Serai and Parit Buntar dealt with 14,000 tons of padi in 1936 (equivalent to approximately six million gantangs) all of which was produced in the Krian district. The mills produced 51,374 bags of parboiled and 39,932 bags of white rice. The small mill in Temerloh, Pahang, bought 4,175 pikuls of padi as compared with 2,341 pikuls in the previous year. Although this quantity of padi is very much below the capacity of the mill, the operation of this plant resulted in the price of padi being maintained at an economic level in both the Temerloh and Raub districts.

Further selection and testing of pure strains of padi, cultivation and manurial experiments and work on padi soils have been continued throughout the year. In Krian experiments now indicate that one strain can be used with advantage for general planting throughout the district. The exclusive use of this strain is being encouraged in order to provide the Government mill with large supplies of uniform grain and thereby to improve the quality of the rice produced.

The three scientific officers appointed to the headquarters staff of the Department of Agriculture for rice research worked throughout the year on problems connected with this crop.

Tobacco.—This crop is grown mainly by Chinese usually in rotation with vegetables, although a certain number of Malay small-holders also cultivate it partly for their own domestic consumption. The planted area varies considerably at different periods of the year under the influence of season and prevailing prices. The crop is grown entirely to supply the local demand and is sold on the cheapest market. The tobacco produced is

Digitized by Google

of a coarse type and is usually manufactured into fine cut leaf in primitive factories by Chinese or is made up into cheap cheroots for local consumption. The amount of tobacco produced locally is unknown but it is totally inadequate to satisfy the demand.

The area under tobacco in the Federated Malay States during the year 1936 was estimated to be 1,846 acres, a decrease of about 248 acres as compared with the previous year. This figure does not of course represent the total area planted or harvested during the year because the crop occupies the ground for only 4½ months, so that many areas may be planted and harvested entirely within the year without being included in the annual survey of areas. It would be fair to assume that the total area planted was twice the area recorded at the end of the year.

Prices for locally grown tobacco varied considerably in different localities, so that it is quite impossible to strike an average for the year, prices in Malaya ranged for $10 per picul for third quality to $45 per picul for first quality. Experiments were carried out by the Department of Agriculture at the Central Experiment Station, Serdang, on the production of flue cured leaf suitable for making cigarettes. These experiments showed that climatic conditions on the western side of the Peninsula are unfavourable. It is felt that better results will be obtained with a darker leafed tobacco as produced in Ceylon and future investigations will be restricted to this type of tobacco.

Stem borer continued to cause a serious damage to the crop in areas where crop rotation was not practised regularly. Slime disease and mosaic disease continued to give trouble.

Fruit.—There is a large demand for local varieties of fruit, especially in the urban centres; the demand is by no means satisfied by local production, in consequence there are considerable imports of fresh fruit from the Netherlands Indies and China each year. The total import of fresh fruit into Malaya for 1936 was 16,435 tons valued at $2,422,850, while imports of dried, preserved and canned fruits amounted to an additional 7,671 tons.

Fruit is grown extensively on small-holdings, the majority being cultivated by Malays. The sale of fruit forms an important source of income to many, and in the mixed population of trees which invariably forms a feature of Malay kampongs

Digitized by Google

a fair proportion of fruit trees is always found. There are, however, at a few points a number of fruit orchards cultivated by Chinese.

The following table shows the areas in acres under fruits other than pineapples in the Federated Malay States:

Year.	Bananas.	Other fruits.	Total acres.
1934 ...	9,985 ...	20,499 ...	30,484
1935 ...	10,662 ...	22,294 ...	32,956
1936 ...	12,902 ...	27,127 ...	40,029

Excluding pineapples and bananas the range of fruit cultivated is very extensive and includes among others such varieties as mangosteens, pulasans, rambutans, durians, chikus, belimbings, langsats and "Mandarin" oranges. The amount of local production cannot be estimated but there is scope for the extension of the fruit-producing industry and for improvements in marketing fruit by combination among growers. A feature of the situation is the periodical gluts which tend, during seasons of flush production, to reduce prices temporarily to uneconomic levels.

A very fair demand exists for planting material of fruit trees of known good quality and in spite of the arrangements for the propagation and distribution of fruit trees at various Agricultural Stations the demand continued to exceed the supply.

Vegetables.—Knowledge of the total area planted with vegetables is very incomplete, but in view of the importance of vegetable production an effort has been made to improve statistical knowledge under this head. It is estimated that the planted area of market gardens in the Federated Malay States in 1936 was 3,514 acres. While there are many definite areas near large towns, each comprised of many small gardens, there are also scattered small areas which, although individually small, in the aggregate comprise a considerable area. In addition to the 3,514 acres of market gardens there are also 600 acres classified under "vegetables" and 150 acres under yams alone. Further, sweet potatoes are grown for pig food and to a lesser extent for human consumption. The area recorded as planted with this crop was 1,731 acres. In the aggregate, therefore, there are nearly 6,000 acres planted with vegetables, including market gardens, vegetable areas and sweet potatoes.

Digitized by Google

The demand for vegetables exceeds the supply, rendering necessary the import of canned, fresh, and dried vegetables in increasing quantities. The net imports in tons into Malaya in 1936 were as follows:

Year.	Onions and garlic.	Dried, preserved and canned.	Potatoes.	Fresh.	Total.	
					Tons.	Value.
1934 ...	15,687	15,668	12,627	10,049	54,031	3,837,808
1935 ...	15,890	14,142	12,787	9,142	51,961	3,752,863
1936 ...	16,589	15,271	12,661	12,463	56,984	4,204,155

Arecanuts.—The crop is cultivated on an area of 4,235 acres in the Federated Malay States, where it is much less popular than in the Unfederated Malay States, in which the total acreage under this crop was 44,838.

Statistics are not available of the total crop harvested by reason of the fact that the export returns do not represent the total local production, there being a considerable but unascertainable local consumption.

Market prices were lower in 1936 than in the preceding year, the average declared trade value of arecanuts being $121.95 per ton as compared with $128.52 per ton in 1935. The local market price varies considerably according to quality and it is therefore difficult to strike an average price for the year. The average prices in Singapore of "splits" and sliced were $6.41 and $9.54 respectively.

Experimental work on the cultivation of a large number of varieties of arecanut were continued at the Klang and Serdang Experiment Stations, while areas under selected varieties exist on a number of agricultural stations.

General.

There are 13 agricultural stations, two padi breeding stations, one other main padi station and 24 padi test plots in the Federated Malay States. These were maintained in satisfactory order during the year. At the Central Experiment Station, Serdang, work was continued on a large number of crops; the station continued to attract many visitors. Work at the Coconut Experiment Station at Klang proceeded in accordance with the established programme together with experimental work on copra production. Rice breeding work

Digitized by Google

was continued at the two Experiment Stations at Titi Serong and Tallang, while a large number of experiments on tea were continued at the Experiment Station at Cameron Highlands as well as at Serdang. The agricultural stations continued to discharge their function on the lines which they were designed to follow and have proved their value as centres for demonstration, instruction and the supply of planting material.

Four hundred and twenty-five school gardens were maintained in the Federated Malay States during the year; the general standard of work thereon continued to improve and the annual competitions showed a satisfactorily high standard of upkeep.

The Malayan Agri-horticultural Association held its 13th Malayan Exhibition in Kuala Lumpur in August, and a number of district shows were held, as usual, during the year.

The School of Agriculture, Malaya, situated at Serdang, and supported jointly by the Federated Malay States and the Straits Settlements Governments continued to operate very successfully. The school year opened in May, 1936, with a full complement of 80 boys. Of the 46 students who left school in April, 34 have obtained employment either in the Government service, the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya or in private companies.

The head-quarters research staff of the Department of Agriculture continued to be maintained in Kuala Lumpur. During the year 20 papers representing results of scientific research were published in the *Malayan Agricultural Journal*, as well as in two bulletins. Close liaison was maintained between the scientific staff and agricultural officers in the Field Branch of the Department of Agriculture during the year.

The department continued to issue the *Malayan Agricultural Journal* published in English, three series of special bulletins in English and agricultural journals in Malay, Chinese and Tamil. The most important publication during the year was "An Outline of Malayan Agriculture", which provides the latest information on agriculture in this country. Six bulletins and seven agricultural leaflets were published, the latter for free distribution. The total revenue from publications of the Department of Agriculture showed an increase over that of previous years.

Digitized by Google

The Rubber Research Institute continued to operate successfully during the year. The building of new premises for the Institute were nearly finished at the end of the year.

Livestock.

The dairy farm at Fraser's Hill maintained the supply of milk, vegetables and eggs for consumption on the Hill, while there was a small surplus available for sale in towns on the plains. Sales improved considerably as compared with the previous year and were in excess of the expenditure under the head, Other Charges, by $1,746. There was a milking herd of 20 cows and a poultry stock of some 150 birds.

At the Serdang stock farm further work was continued on the interbreeding of crosses between Friesian and Indian cattle. The herd consisted of 62 animals including 28 milking cows. A portion of the milk derived from this undertaking was sold to Government hospitals and the remainder to private consumers in Kuala Lumpur. The revenue obtained from the sale of produce from this farm exceeded expenditure by $3,150.

Reports of the Health Department on the quality of the milk from both the Fraser's Hill and Serdang farms show that bacteriologically it conforms with the standard laid down for certified milk in England. Both milk and herds have been subjected to the tuberculin tests and found to be free from tuberculosis.

The section of the farm devoted to pig breeding has again proved successful and 20 head were sold for breeding purposes during the year mainly to Chinese pig breeders and market gardeners in Selangor.

Much attention has been devoted to the improvement of poultry on small-holdings throughout the Federated Malay States. Experience both in Malaya and elsewhere in the tropics appears to provide confirmation that Rhode Island Red is a suitable breed to rear for general distribution. Success in the past has not been unqualified at several stations, owing to the flocks kept being too small to provide the minimum requirement of breeding pens to maintain a reasonable flock, much less to provide birds for distribution on anything but a meagre scale. With the object of remedying this defect and to simplify the importation of fresh stock as and when required, it has been arranged that the School of Agriculture should provide material for establishing and maintaining stocks at agricultural

Digitized by Google

stations. The poultry breeding establishment at the school is being steadily developed to enable it to fulfil this function of supply to agricultural stations.

Poultry diseases have continued to take toll of kampong stocks, but no particularly serious outbreaks have been reported. Instruction on poultry husbandry was continued in connection with tours of the rural lecture caravan and talks were given on better housing and feeding of village poultry at all centres visited.

A census of livestock collected by the Veterinary Department during the year shows the following figures:

State.	Oxen.	Buffaloes.	Sheep.	Goats.	Swine.	Horses.
Perak	26,034	15,393	402	44,742	80,247	111
Selangor	17,669	2,755	495	36,709	125,468	172
N. Sembilan	11,355	12,355	2,947	22,991	38,149	14
Pahang	5,514	24,334	4,685	26,712	16,261	28
Total (1936) ...	60,572	54,837	8,529	131,154	260,125	325
„ (1935) ...	59,038	50,030	6,998	116,791	218,917	369
Total increase for 1936 ...	1,534	4,807	1,531	14,363	41,208	

Taking the average values of these animals at $50 a head for oxen, $60 for buffaloes, $5 for sheep, $6 for goats, and $15 for swine, the approximate values of this livestock may be estimated as follows: oxen, $3,000,000; buffaloes, $3,250,000; sheep, $40,000; goats, $750,000 and swine, $3,900,000. This makes a total of $10,940,000. Figures for numbers and value of poultry are not available.

Compared with the year 1935, the census figures show a general increase as indicated in the following table:

State.	Oxen.		Buffaloes.		Sheep.		Goats.		Swine.	
	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-
Perak	...	761	598	...	...	65	...	3,607	21,919	...
Selangor	969	...	74	...	218	...	4,795	...	11,735	...
Negri Sembilan...	720	...	2,106	...	455	...	4,798	...	5,559	...
Pahang	606	...	2,029	...	923	...	8,377	...	1,995	...
	2,295	...	4,807	...	1,596	...	17,970	...	41,208	...
Total Increase ...	1,534	...	4,807	...	1,531	...	14,363	...	41,208	...

Digitized by Google

Taking the average values given above, the total increase may be valued at $1,077,073, of which swine account for $618,120, and of this latter figure $328,785 applies to Perak.

The increase in oxen in all States except Perak is possibly accounted for to some extent by improved census taking. On the other hand there is evidence that some owners are taking more interest in their cattle and that in some instances there is not the hitherto indiscriminate disposal of animals. In Perak there has been a decrease due no doubt to the demand made on local supply for slaughter animals. In general, the type of animals is inferior, but as owners generally retain the better types for dairy purposes, the disposal of the poorer type for meat supply need not be looked upon with disfavour.

Buffaloes show considerable increase particularly in Negri Sembilan and Pahang. It is perhaps unfortunate that suitable steps are not taken, as in the Unfederated Malay States, to prevent the more or less indiscriminate slaughter of females of this species. Such a measure need not be an undue hardship but could be of ultimate benefit to the Malay buffalo owners.

Except in Pahang and Negri Sembilan there are very few local sheep. On the other hand goats form an important live-stock industry and the increases for all states except Perak are very encouraging. In Perak, serious disease including goat pox (stone pox) was responsible for heavy mortality, whilst there was considerable demand for slaughter animals available locally. With regard to specific goat diseases, one would like to think that these are being eradicated, since one important source of infection, the imported Indian goat, has been eliminated. But once the disease has been introduced there is always a likelihood that unobserved centres of infection remain which of course may give rise to further outbreaks later on. However the Veterinary authorities are exercising the strictest supervision over these animals.

There were large increases in swine particularly in Perak. When foreign supplies to Ipoh abattoirs were cut off the Chinese pig breeders immediately increased their efforts for local production. At the same time Perak was dependent to some extent on supplies from Selangor, Province Wellesley and Kedah. It is hoped, however, that Perak eventually will be entirely self-supporting in slaughter swine.

Digitized by Google

No special observations can be made on poultry except there is some evidence that improved cockerels are becoming more popular. While imported birds certainly do improve the size of local birds and the size of eggs produced, it is nevertheless unfortunate that at the same time some selection is not made amongst the foundation local stock since there are distinct variations in the quality of existing local birds which, except for devastating disease, withstand local conditions better than European birds. An estimate of the total numbers of birds is not possible at present, but the value of this industry must be very considerable.

Work in connection with animal husbandry generally was continued throughout the year. As its objects this work aims at improvement and increase of the various species, and improvements in the food supply of animals. Lectures, talks and demonstrations are given and wherever possible livestock shows are held. These shows are becoming increasingly popular and there is no doubt that apart from their value as a means of demonstration they afford a valuable means of contact with livestock owners. It is hoped to extend this work.

In Negri Sembilan the Government Veterinary Surgeon instituted a livestock committee to examine the ways and means of improving the dairy cattle on estates and amongst the local Indian dairymen. The committee has furnished its report which gives interesting detailed information and includes constructive proposals for improving the stock in the State. It is hoped the scheme will go ahead and that it will not be long before other States can adopt schemes applicable to local requirements. At the same time a central cattle breeding station is essential to effect further improvements for the benefit of Malaya as a whole, and proposals with this object in view have been made.

The preparation of butter and ghee locally is being investigated and preliminary observations on the manufacture of these products from Malayan buffaloes have been made in Pahang. A very satisfactory product can be obtained but as yet the supply of milk from these animals is so small that milk cannot be taken from the cow without adversely affecting the sucking calf. The whole question of local ghee production from the various species of milking animals is worthy of serious investigation, since this animal fat could be an important addition to the diet of all communities. At the present time the amount of ghee imported annually approximates 700 tons, and this is considered an inferior product.

Digitized by Google

Animal Traffic.

In September, the importation of cattle from Southern Siam was reopened after this traffic had been closed for more than a year, importation being allowed only by railway via Padang Besar Cattle Quarantine Station to the extent of 100 head to Kuala Lumpur and 50 head to Ipoh, fortnightly. Other sources from which cattle were imported into the Federated Malay States were Kelantan, Trengganu, Kedah, Johore, the Straits Settlements, and Bali (Netherlands Indies) via Singapore. Imports from Kelantan showed a considerable decrease as compared with the previous year.

The following table gives the numbers of animals imported from various sources during the year:

From.	Oxen.	Buffaloes.	Sheep.	Goats.	Swine.	Horses.	Dogs.
(1) Malayan Areas outside F.M.S.							
Singapore...	...	...	...	..	...	4	7
Malacca	106	197	...	70	1,257	...	11
Penang	...	8	58	29	863		
Province Wellesley ...	25	...	3	93	14,428		
Kedah	146	241	...	163	2,849		
Perlis	24						
Johore	21	...	...	...	...	...	1
Kelantan	626	492	2	...	14	...	3
Trengganu	411	64	...	20			
Brunei	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total (Malayan) ...	1,359	1,002	63	375	19,411	4	23
(2) Outside Malaya.							
Netherlands Indies ...	162	...	..	492	214		
Siam	304	546					
Australia	9	...	7,187	...	...	...	1
India	...	...	2,623	6			
United States of America	...	...	...	...	...	2	
England	1	...	...	...	2	...	25
Scotland	...	...	...	...	1		
Canada	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total (Other Countries)	476	546	9,810	498	217	2	27
Grand Total ...	1,835	1,548	9,873	873	19,628	6	50

There is practically no export of livestock from the Federated Malay States though there is considerable inter-State traffic, the more important being export of buffaloes and cattle from Pahang to Selangor and Negri Sembilan, and export of swine from Selangor to Pahang, Perak and Negri Sembilan. There is room

Digitized by Google

for considerable improvement in the export of buffaloes from Pahang for slaughter in the larger Federated Malay States abattoirs.

Outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease occurred in Perak at Kampar, and at the Ipoh dairy; in Selangor at Serendah, Sungei Choh, and in several areas near Kuala Lumpur. In all, there were 612 cases with 13 deaths.

Outbreaks of goat pox occurred in Perak—in the Krian and Matang districts, 342 being infected, of which 209 died. (The mortality from this disease in Perak in 1935 was 1,713 head.)

In September, a case of swine fever was confirmed at the Kuala Kurau (Perak) slaughter-house and inspection of swine in the vicinity from which the one case was drawn revealed a fairly widespread epidemic. It was fortunate that pig rearing was confined in this part of Krian practically to the Chinese fishing villages on the coastal belt. (Immediately inland of this area pigs are not reared and the epidemic was therefore confined to a definite area.) Adult and young pigs were affected and as the epidemic proceeded a greater percentage of infected pigs recovered. The outbreak lasted from September to December and during this period there were 695 cases of which 512 died, two were destroyed *in extremis* and 181 recovered.

A second outbreak occurred in November on the premises of a Chinese breeder on the outskirts of Taiping. It spread slowly to adjacent piggeries where the mortality was high. There were 160 cases of which 73 died, 64 were destroyed and 23 remained under surveillance at the end of the year.

Detailed observations were made on the disease and these will be published in due course. Measures of control were confined to the strict quarantine of all swine in the area defined as infected; pigs were confined to their owners' premises; carcases of pigs dead of the disease were disposed of under supervision; a census of swine in the infected areas was taken; and routine inspections were carried out by the Veterinary Police. This disease is a serious one of swine and so far as is known it does not occur in the other three States of the Federation or in other parts of Perak. A first essential for the safety of Perak swine is to have effective control over all piggeries and the movements of swine, and so far as is possible, to produce all Perak requirements of swine in the State. Local production should not be difficult of achievement.

Digitized by Google

Of poultry diseases outbreaks of the virus disease referred to as diphtheritic-stomato-pharyngitis occurred in Perak and Selangor, and an outbreak of fowl-pox was reported from Negri Sembilan. In Kuantan (Pahang) there were three outbreaks of poultry disease.

FORESTS.

At the end of the year there were 7,503 square miles of reserved forest, representing 27.2 per cent. of the total land area of the Federated Malay States, of which approximately 22,400 square miles are estimated to be covered with some kind of forest growth. Much of the unreserved forest has been depleted of its more valuable timbers, and though a certain amount of regrowth of commercial species can be expected, areas subjected to destructive exploitation cannot be regarded as potentially productive in the sense that carefully worked reserves can be so considered. No doubt this is widely appreciated, but at the risk of stressing the obvious it seems desirable to draw attention to the difference between "mining" and working a forest. The timber from State land has been mined, and the stage is rapidly approaching when the requirements of the country and, it is hoped, a remunerative export trade, will have to be met *and maintained* from forest reserves.

Returning prosperity was reflected in a very considerable increase in the demand for timber. Firewood, however, remained practically stationary, for the slight increase that resulted from further releases in the tin industry and the consequent bringing into use of wood-consuming engines that had been temporarily laid up, was more than offset by a very considerable increase in the amount of rubber firewood available at knock-down prices as a result of replanting programmes. This abundant source of cheap though inferior firewood is presenting a serious problem in that it is becoming increasingly difficult to dispose of inferior and unwanted trees in regeneration operations, which could formerly be carried out at a profit and must now be done at a loss, a further aggravation being that rubber wood paid no royalty. The outturn of charcoal was much the same as in 1935, a satisfactory feature being the increasing number of permanent beehive kilns in the mangrove swamps.

Silvicultural treatment with the use of sodium arsenite continued, but on a slightly reduced scale owing to lack of seed for regenerative purposes. One of the most difficult

Digitized by Google

problems in the past has been to budget in advance for expenditure on seeding fellings, which, to be effective, must be conducted as soon as possible after the fall of the seed. It has now been decided that the annually recurrent vote should be sufficiently large to allow for reasonable eventualities, but that failure to spend it all owing to lack of suitable conditions will not result in its automatic reduction in the following year in the manner prescribed for annually recurrent votes generally. This concession introduces an element of elasticity, which will doubtless result in considerable savings and make for increased efficiency.

The total number of saw-mills now operating in the Federated Malay States is 26, of which all but three are of the semi-portable type. There can be no doubt that this mode of conversion has come to stay and that the days of the hand-sawyer are numbered except for the cutting of hardwoods—particularly sleepers—in relatively inaccessible situations. The portable mill with its low overheads and comparatively simple mechanism is far more suitable to Malayan conditions than the large up-to-date outfit with its highly paid personnel, but even the former needs careful watching to prevent it from picking all the plums at the start and leaving itself economically stranded. For this reason a system of licensing is being devised and will shortly be introduced.

Outturn figures for 1936 and the previous year (in brackets) in thousands of cubic feet solid were: timber 11,318 (8,577), firewood 9,130 (8,608) and charcoal 1,186 (1,134); the corresponding revenue figures cannot be given in detail but the totals were $1,017,127 (852,011). Revenue from minor produce rose sharply from $71,084 to $122,597, the most notable increases being *jelutong* $59,938 (18,257) and gutta percha $9,073 (4,650).

The financial results of the year's working were as follows, figures for 1935 being given in brackets for comparison:

Revenue	...	$1,212,078	...	(1,091,346)
Expenditure	...	782,795	...	(876,982) including clerical services
Surplus	...	429,283	...	(214,364)

The decrease in expenditure is explained by the financing of orders placed by the Naval Base contractors through the Timber Purchase Officer's suspense account in 1935. No orders of

Digitized by Google

similar magnitude were similarly placed in 1936 and the expenditure figures are therefore smaller. This, of course, is equally true of the revenue which was correspondingly swelled when the suspense account was reimbursed. A truer comparison between the figures for 1935 and 1936 would be obtained if both revenue and expenditure figures for the former year were reduced by $100,000.

For the reason stated in the previous paragraph, the work of the Timber Purchase Section shows a decrease, although purchases on behalf of the Railways rose from $628,218 to $658,844, the bulk of this being for sleepers of which 283,500 (264,206) were handed over during the year. Business handled on behalf of other consumers fell from $144,514 to $44,846. The export trade, mainly in the shape of sawn timber from Telok Anson to Penang and round timber from the coast of Pahang to the Singapore saw-mills, fell in value from $922,665 to $825,205.

The Forest Research Institute, Kepong, and the Timber Research Laboratory, Sentul, continued to function as usual. Notable progress was made with silvicultural investigations. Research into methods of impregnation continued and an open tank installation capable of treating 25,000 secondary hardwood sleepers per year was erected by the Railways at Sentul where it will be operated under the general supervision of the officer in charge of the Timber Research Laboratory. "*Malayan Forest Record* No. 12"—the first of a series dealing with commercial timbers of the Malay Peninsula—was published during the year.

Federal and State duty posts held by officers of the Malayan Forest Service numbered 26 at the close of the year. The locally recruited English-speaking staff included four Extra Assistant Conservators and six Sub-Assistants, in addition to five Technical Assistants and Timber Inspectors. The subordinate staff included 30 Rangers, 63 Foresters, 329 Forest Guards and 42 Boatmen, all of whom are Malays, and the clerical staff numbered 55 including 45 members of the General Clerical Service.

Fisheries.

With the exception of a prolonged spell of bad weather on the East Coast, weather conditions were normal and fishing was carried on without interruption.

Digitized by Google

Catches were up to the average and prices remained good. There were not less than 13,314 fishermen employed in 1936 of whom 7,439 were Malays. 5,721 Chinese, 90 Indians, 60 Siamese and four of Portuguese descent.

Revenue collected from fishing boat and fishing gear licences amounted to $16,314.

The experimental vessel equipped with refrigeration plant commenced operations and two trips were made before the end of the year between Singapore and Pangkor, Dindings. Results were encouraging and it has been demonstrated that it is possible to extend the market for fresh Kembong (Scomber) to Singapore. Work off the Pahang coast had to be deferred owing to the North East Monsoon.

The canning experiments at Beserah were disappointing. The young Malay officer who had been trained for the work developed typhoid fever just when the work was about to start. This necessitated the training of another officer to replace him, since it was considered inadvisable to retain him on this work, and he was consequently transferred to another district. The delay was followed by an unusual spell of bad weather which prevented the Beserah men going to sea. It persisted until the end of the fishing season and very little fish was available for the canning station in consequence.

About 1,000 cans were packed and stored for observation. There is no longer any doubt about the suitability of Kembong (Scomber) and Selayang (Caranx) for packing. They pack well and are excellent food when packed.

The tall round can has not proved altogether suitable: a round flat can is found to be the most suited and will be adopted in future. The station is well equipped and capable of a good output with regular supplies.

It is of interest to record that the use of ice is increasing. A new ice factory has been established at Klang, Selangor; it is operated by some local Chinese of whom some are local fishermen. They are competing in the local ice trade and selling

Digitized by Google

the produce among fishermen. As a result of this competition the price of ice fell from $2.60 per 220 lb. block to $1.60 per block.

The work on the cultivation of fresh-water fish continues and Sepat Siam (Tricopodus), introduced into the newly opened rice growing area of Sungei Manik, are doing well. They are being marketed at a profitable figure and the proceeds from their sale is an important item of income for the rice cultivators.

The work is being extended, and the suitability of river carp and gouramy for cultivation in such borrow pits as are available is being tested.

The experiment station at the 6th mile on the Tapah-Cameron Highlands road was partially completed in March when one pond was stocked with 2,000 mixed fry of Tengas (Lissocheilus) and Kelah (Puntius) which were obtained from the Batang Padang River. They ranged from ½ inch to 1 inch in length when caught and proved to be very hardy and were easily transported. By the end of the year they had attained lengths ranging from 4 inches to 8 inches and it was then ascertained that the Tengas were of two species; a small number of them being a species which does not grow to any great size, as fry they could not be distinguished from the larger Tengas. All have been fed on a purely vegetable diet of tapioca and unboiled rice polishings—growth has not been rapid, but they have accumulated a good deal of fat.

Later, two more ponds were constructed to accommodate Lampan and Terbol and it is hoped that they will spawn and produce fry for distribution.

These fishes have a high food value and being vegetarian are cheap to feed.

The stocking of the Cameron Highlands rivers with trout is being continued. The fish which were liberated in 1935 are doing well and have been reinforced by a further supply of 8,000 young trout of approximately 4 inches in length.

Of this amount roughly 40 per cent. are brown trout and they have been liberated in the Ichat, Terla, Telom and Kial rivers.

Digitized by Google

They show no tendency to migrate except for their normal search for deep water as they grow larger. Some of the original stock have moved a little way down the Telom and fish from ¾ of a pound to 1 pound in weight may be seen moving out of the deeper pools towards the close of the day.

The beautiful streams are an attractive setting for them. The hatchery stock have matured and are likely to spawn in the early part of 1937.

Manufactures.

There are but few manufacturing concerns in the Federated Malay States. They include four aerated water factories, two match factories, six distilleries, one plywood factory, three pineapple canning factories, one cement works, and a few tile and brick factories.

CHAPTER VII.

Commerce.

The aggregate declared value of the imports, exports and re-exports of the Federated Malay States with countries situated outside the Federation, as compiled from declarations received at the Central Trade Registry during the year 1936 is $343,742,286 as against $273,872,976, an increase of $69,869,310 or about 26 per cent.

The declared value of the imports has risen by over nine million dollars, and there is also an increase in the aggregate value of the exports of over 60 million dollars, mainly due to the increase in the market prices of rubber and copra, and also due to the increased export of tin-ore consequent on the enhanced percentage of the release of tin.

During 1936, the price of tin varied from $85.62½ to $121.25 and averaged $100.44 per picul as against $111.38 per picul in 1935.

The price of rubber varied from 22¼ to 34 cents with an average of 26.86 cents per pound in 1936, as against 20.3 cents per pound in 1935.

Digitized by Google

The price of copra (sun dried) varied from $4.77 to $8.88 per picul and the average price for the year 1936 was $5.81 as against $4.52 in 1935.

The total value of the imports, exports and re-exports, including bullion and parcel post for the last six years are as follows:

Year.	Imports.	Exports and re-exports.	Favourable trade balance.
	$	$	$
1931 ...	106,201,211 ...	125,177,183 ...	18,975,972
1932 ...	71,133,301 ...	87,851,281 ...	16,717,980
1933 ...	67,129,150 ...	111,885,935 ...	44,756,785
1934 ...	84,731,059 ...	202,725,341 ...	117,994,282
1935 ...	87,102,149 ...	186,770,827 ...	99,668,678
1936 ...	96,796,795 ...	246,945,491 ...	150,148,696

The favourable trade balance for 1936, resulting from the improvement in the prices of rubber and copra, which have increased the value of the exports by over 60 million dollars may be considered extremely satisfactory.

The increase in the purchasing power of the Federation is being reflected in the steady increase in the declared value of the imports into the Federation as shown by the quarterly figures given below:

MERCHANDISE, PARCEL POST, BULLION AND SPECIE.

——	Imports.	Exports.	Re-exports.	Total.
	$	$	$	$
1st quarter, 1936 ...	22,740,495	55,719,849	930,463	79,390,807
2nd „ „ ...	22,809,484	54,096,354	945,247	77,851,085
3rd „ „ ...	24,404,231	60,526,152	945,236	85,875,619
4th „ „ ...	26,842,585	72,457,380	1,324,810	100,624,775
Total	96,796,795	242,799,735	4,145,756	343,742,286

Digitized by Google

The percentage distribution of the imports, exports and re-exports trade of the Federated Malay States for the last three years is as follows:

IMPORTS.

Countries from which imported.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Singapore	31.42	30.55	30.71
Penang	17.61	19.54	19.43
Malacca	2.00	2.20	1.99
Unfederated Malay States ...	2.28	2.34	1.96
United Kingdom	12.70	13.65	14.42
British Possessions ...	9.36	10.52	9.33
Continent of Europe ...	2.54	2.45	2.80
Siam	9.45	7.53	8.00
Netherlands Indies ...	9.93	8.48	8.65
Other Foreign Countries ...	2.71	2.74	2.71
	100.00	100.00	100.00

EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS.

Countries to which exported.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Singapore	23.12	24.18	24.59
Penang	28.08	33.13	35.03
Malacca	2.54	1.23	1.48
Unfederated Malay States ...	.60	.49	.58
United Kingdom	16.62	15.46	6.73
British Possessions	1.14	1.75	2.25
United States of America ...	15.23	14.02	17.95
Other Foreign Countries ...	12.67	9.74	11.39
	100.00	100.00	100.00

During the year 1936 the restriction imposed by Sanctions against Italy under the Covenant of the League of Nations by His Majesty's Orders in Council were raised and trade with Italy resumed its normal course after an enforced lapse of eight months.

Digitized by Google

The foreign (external) trade of Malaya, representing the Colony of the Straits Settlements, the Federated and the Unfederated Malay States, in merchandise, bullion and specie and parcel post, amounted in value to $1,152 (£134) millions, as compared with $1,063 (£124) millions in 1935, an increase of 8.4 per cent. Imports increased by $34 millions or 7.1 per cent. and exports by $55 millions or 9.4 per cent. Increases in both the import and the export trade were spread over the majority of the principal products, the largest increases being in the imports of rubber, liquid fuel, copra, tin-ore, rice, kerosene, other manufactures of iron and steel unenumerated and tin plates, and in the exports of rubber, tin, coconut oil, kerosene, liquid fuel, copra, arecanuts, palm oil and sago flour. There were, as a counterpoise, decreases in the imports of motor spirit, pepper, opium, motor cars, locomotives, swine, and illipi nuts, and in the exports of motor spirit, pepper, gunnies and cotton piece-goods. Exports of rubber increased by $44,221,000 and those of tin increased by $24,059,000.

The $1,152 millions of external trade consisted of imports $513 ($479) millions and exports $639 ($584) millions, the figures for 1935 being shown in brackets. The value of bunker coal, oil fuel and stores taken on board ships on foreign routes for their own consumption amounted to $11 ($12) millions and if this is added to the excess of exports there was a favourable trade balance of $137 millions, as compared with a favourable balance on the same basis of $117 millions in 1935.

Of the $1,152 millions, representing the external trade of Malaya, $981 ($909) millions or 85 (86) per cent. indicate the direct foreign trade of the Straits Settlements, $133 ($121) millions or 12 (11) per cent. the direct foreign trade of the Federated Malay States and $38 ($33) millions or 3 (3) per cent. that of the Unfederated Malay States.

For the Federated Malay States, the total trade amounted to $344 millions as compared with $274 millions for the previous year, an increase of $70 millions or 25.5 per cent. as shown in the quarterly returns of the Customs Department. Of the $344 millions, $139 millions or 40 per cent. represented foreign trade, $202 millions or 59 per cent. trade with the Colony, and $3 millions or 1 per cent. trade with the Unfederated Malay States.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VIII.

Wages and Cost of Living.

The average weighted index of commodity prices, represented by 17 principal commodities (15 wholesale and 2 retail) increased by 14.1 per cent. as compared with 1935, due principally to increases in the prices of rubber, copra, tapioca and coconut oil. There were increases also in the prices of sago flour, arecanuts, palm oil and damar. The prices of tin, pepper, pineapples, rattans, coffee, rice and gambier declined. The following index numbers show changes in commodity values during the last five years:

1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
37 ...	45 ...	63 ...	64 ...	73

There was a general decrease in the cost of living for all communities and the index numbers for the Asiatic, Eurasian and European standards given below show that costs in respect of all three standards though slightly lower when compared with 1935 are still higher than in 1914.

Standard.	1914.	1935.	1936.	Percentage increase + or decrease − in 1936 as compared with 1935.
Asiatic ...	100 ...	108.1 ...	106.0 ...	−1.9
Eurasian ...	100 ...	109.0 ...	107.8 ...	−1.1
European ...	100 ...	124.7 ...	124.0 ...	−0.6

The bulk of the labour in the Federated Malay States is employed on rubber estates and tin mines. The labour on the former comes in the main from Southern India whilst that on the latter is mostly Chinese.

Since 1923 the Indian Immigration Committee has had the power to prescribe standard wages for South Indian labourers, such rates being based on a standard budget including foodstuffs, clothing, festival expenses, household equipment, savings, return passages to India and maintenance of dependants. In 1930 the following standard rates were fixed:

Coast Districts of Selangor.

40 cents a day for each adult able-bodied male.
32 ,, ,, ,, female.

Inland Districts of Pahang.

47 cents a day for each adult able-bodied male.
37 ,, ,, ,, female.

The price of rubber rose during the year and the permissible output increased at the same time. Many estates began replanting programmes under the Rubber Regulation Scheme.

Digitized by Google

The price and export allowance of tin also rose. All these factors combined to increase the employment available with the result that wages rose and labourers both Indian and Chinese who came to Malaya during the year were readily absorbed. In no cases, on well-organised estates, were wages of less than 40 cents for men and 32 cents for women paid for tappers in the latter half of the year. The operation of bonus schemes and payment for afternoon work, etc., meant that higher earnings than these were common in most parts of the country.

The price of Rangoon rice which is the staple article of diet for estate labourers fluctuated within small limits during the year, the Singapore prices in January, July and December being 26 cents, 24 cents and 26 cents per gantang, respectively. There was little change also in the cost of the other articles included in a typical South Indian labourer's budget.

Assisted immigration from India was on a very small scale. Except for a few tea and oil-palm estates no kangany licences were issued. The other assisted immigrants consisted principally of men returning from holidays and wives and dependants of men already in this country. The identification certificates issued to labourers on their depature from Malaya to India are now well understood and were of great assistance. The demand for bearer-letters in order to bring in new labourers was not big being restricted mainly to letters for wives and children. Some difficulties were met with but were overcome and at the end of the year the system seemed to be well understood.

In the middle of December the news of an increase in the release of rubber to 75 per cent. for the 1st quarter, 1937, and to 80 per cent. for the second quarter was received. It is gratifying to report that employers in all parts of Malaya took up the question of increasing wages with the result that the United Planting Association of Malaya and the Rubber Growers' Association recommended an increase to 45 cents for men and 36 cents for women as from the beginning of 1937. [These rates were increased in April, 1937.]

Chinese labourers employed on estates are usually paid by results—their wages during the year showed a rising tendency and were between 50-65 cents a day. Of the Chinese labourers employed on mines about 80 per cent. are engaged on piece work and earned between $15 and $18 a month those employed on daily wages earned from 60 cents a day upwards.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER IX.

Education.

A.—General.

The expenditure upon education (including $278,025 spent by the Public Works Department on the building and upkeep of schools) was $3,510,471. Of this sum, $417,668 was paid in grants to English aided schools, $70,626 in grants to Tamil vernacular schools and $115,922 in grants to Chinese vernacular schools. The total revenue amounted to $530,335 of which the sum of $233,992 represents the proceeds of the education rate, the remainder being derived from school fees and miscellaneous sources. The net expenditure on education was, therefore, $2,980,136.

Education facilities are provided in the Federated Malay States in English, Malay, Chinese and Tamil.

Schools are either Government, Aided by Government, or Private.

All schools (other than those in which the teaching is of an exclusively religious nature) in which ten or more persons are habitually taught in one or more classes, and all supervisors, committees of management and teachers of schools must be registered in accordance with the Registration of Schools Enactment. In pursuance of the decentralisation policy of the Government the powers of the Federal Director and Assistant Directors of Education have been handed over to State officers who are now called Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents of Education.

The reprinting of Education Codes was undertaken during the year and the following revised editions were issued:

Part I.—General Regulations for Government and Aided English Schools in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.

,, II.—Regulations for Aided English Schools in the Federated Malay States.

,, III.—Suggestions for Inspectors, Principals and Staffs of English Schools in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.

,, IV.—A List of Scholarships in the Federated Malay States together with Rules for the Remission of Fees.

Digitized by Google

Part VII.—General Regulations for Indian Vernacular Schools in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.

The following Education Codes were in print at the close of the year:

Part V.—Regulations for Malay Vernacular Education in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.

,, VI.—Regulations for Chinese Vernacular Schools in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.

B.—English Education.

The "English schools" are those in which English is the medium of instruction. Less than half of the pupils come from English-speaking homes. The lowest class may be composed of children speaking between them some seven or eight different languages or dialects, those speaking one language or dialect being generally quite unable to understand those speaking any of the others. In the circumstances the use of the "direct method" of teaching English is practically obligatory. Children are accepted into the lowest class at the age of six or seven and are given an education which ends as a rule with their presentation at the Cambridge School Certificate Examination, though a few stay on to prepare for the London Matriculation Examination or to enter for the Queen's Scholarship Examination.

The fees for pupils enrolled before the 1st January, 1934, are $30 (£3 10*s*.) a year for boys and $24 (£2 16*s*.) a year for girls for the first six years (i.e., for the years spent in the two Primary Classes and in Standards I to IV inclusive) and $48 (£5 12*s*.) a year for boys and $36 (£4 4*s*.) a year for girls for the remaining period. The rates for boys and girls enrolled on or after the 1st January, 1934, are $36 (£4 4*s*.) a year for the first eight years (i.e., up to and including Standard VI) and thereafter $72 (£8 8*s*.) or $108 (£12 12*s*.) a year, according to the results of an examination, the successful pupils, up to 50 per cent. of the available places, paying the lower fee and the remainder paying the higher one.

Education is not compulsory.

Digitized by Google

In 1936 there were 23 Government English Schools for boys and 12 Grant-in-aid English Schools for boys and 13 for girls. The total average enrolments were 6,633, 5,553 and 4,699, respectively, a total increase of 389 on the 1935 figures.

Of the 16,885 pupils in English schools at the end of the year, 2,864 (or 16.96 per cent.) were enjoying free education. The details of the nationalities so benefited were 198 Europeans and Eurasians, 1,784 Malays, 618 Chinese, 237 Indians and 27 others.

The Aided English Schools are managed by various missionary bodies—the Christian Brothers, the Methodist Episcopal Mission, the Church of England, the Plymouth Brethren and the Sisters of the Holy Infant Jesus.

The Government pays to such schools monthly grants equal to the difference between their revenue and approved expenditure. The approved expenditure includes Government rates of pay for the lay staff, rates and taxes on school premises, the cost of minor repairs and equipment, and salaries in respect of European Missionary teachers at the rate of $3,000 (£350) a year for men missionaries and $1,800 (£210) a year for women missionaries. Allowances at these rates, however, are payable only to 16 per cent. of the total authorised staff in boys' schools and 25 per cent. of that in girls' schools. The other missionary teachers, European and Asiatic, are paid at the rate of $1,440 (£168) a year for men and $1,200 (£140) a year for women. In Christian Brothers' Schools and Convent Schools no distinction is made between European and Asiatic Missionary teachers who are all paid at a flat rate of $2,400 (£280) a year for men and $1,500 (£175) a year for women. Under certain conditions capital grants amounting to half the cost of approved new buildings are also paid by the Government.

Owing to the financial position the Government restricted the amount of grant-in-aid paid in 1934 to three-quarters, and in 1935 to two-thirds, of the sum paid in respect of the year 1932. In 1936 the grants-in-aid were paid in accordance with the regulations.

The Malay College, Kuala Kangsar, is a secondary school for the sons of the Malay Rulers and for other Malay youths of good family, which in addition trains probationers for the Malay Administrative Service and for certain other Government departments. At the beginning of the year there were 119 students, and at the end of the year 138—50 from Perak, 26 from

Digitized by Google

Selangor, 29 from Negri Sembilan, 18 from Pahang, 6 from Johore, 2 from Trengganu, 2 from Kelantan, 3 from Perlis, 1 from Brunei and 1 from Sarawak; at the end of the year the College was as full as it had ever been. The staff consisted of the Headmaster and three European and five Asiatic Assistant Masters. Apart from an epidemic of mumps in the middle of the year, which attacked most of the boys in the small school and a few in the big school, the health of the boys was good; the Medical Officer, Kuala Kangsar, visits the school and examines the boys regularly, and he has so won their confidence that a boy in the small school looked on an operation for appendicitis as rather a joke. In July, 8 out of 12 students were awarded the Cambridge School Certificate, and 8 out of 12 the junior one. In December, Raja Zahar bin Raja Badiozaman, the School Captain, was awarded the Queen's Scholarship reserved for Malays; he intends to become a Civil Engineer and to return to take up service with the Public Works Department. Four probationers in the Malay Administrative Service appointed in 1935 left in July, and six new probationers joined the College in August. Cadet and scout activities form part of the school routine; parades are held twice a week. The average strength of the cadets was 3 officers and 48 other ranks, the corps was inspected by the Assistant Staff Officer to the Local Forces and received a good report. The average strength of the scouts was 3 officers, 42 scouts and 28 tenderfeet. Games are compulsory, one or other of the principal games—football (association), cricket and hockey—being played by each boy three times a week, while on other days he has to play tennis, fives or badminton, or do physical drill; the swimming pool is well patronised; the masters assist and if possible take part. The usual Annual Athletic Sports Meeting was held; the prizes, with a few exceptions, were provided from the profits of a tuck shop which is run by the boys themselves. The Headmaster reports that he saw more initiative and self-reliance shown throughout the school during 1936 than in any previous year. The cost of running the College was $59,612 as compared with $56,041 in 1935; the fees collected amounted to $8,561, the same sum as in 1935.

There is no central college for the training of teachers for English schools. Teachers for elementary and secondary classes are now recruited from Raffles College and teachers for primary classes from normal classes which when required are held at

Digitized by Google

centres in each of the States of Perak, Selangor and Negri Sembilan; in the State of Pahang correspondence classes take the place of normal classes. In 1936 there was only one normal class; it was held in the State of Selangor and was attended by 24 students, all women.

C.—Vocational and Industrial Education.

The Government Technical School, Kuala Lumpur, a Selangor State Department with Malayan functions, provides courses of training for students sent to it by the Public Works, Drainage and Irrigation, Electrical, Post and Telegraphs, Survey and Railway Departments; in 1936 for the first time in its history, it received students from the Straits Settlements Public Works Department; a few private fee-paying students are accepted. The number of students under full-time instruction in May (the end of the school year) was 78, one more than in 1935, of whom 63 were apprentices from the departments mentioned, 2 were private students supported by scholarships and 13 were private fee-paying students; forty-two were Malays; sixteen completed their training during 1936 and all passed the final examination; the number in the school at the end of the year was 91, of whom 16 were private fee-paying students. The number of applications for places was greater than ever before, and the students admitted, it is reported, were more "technically minded" than they used to be. The school hostel has accommodation for 48 students and was occupied by 46 in May and by 63 in December; the school gymnasium had to be converted into a dormitory to meet the increase in numbers. Certain of the City and Guilds of London Institute Examinations are held in Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh, Singapore and Penang, and the number of candidates who applied to sit for them in 1936 was 157 as compared with 152 in 1935; forty-eight students of the Technical School sat for one or more of them and 46 passed, one being awarded a bronze medal. Special lectures by officers of the Posts and Telegraphs Department proved to be of great value. Classes in hygiene and first aid, conducted by the Medical Department, to which the school is grateful, were continued and were very popular. Discipline on the whole was good, health excellent, and attendance (99.4 per cent.) very high. The students maintained their sports activities, and took up the playing of rugby football for the first time. Small additions were made to the laboratory equipment, and a considerable number of modern reference works were added to the library, these being made full use of by both instructors and students.

Digitized by Google

The Technical School Advisory Committee met once to consider a salary scheme for the instructors; the scheme was accepted by Government and all instructors were brought on to it in July. The expenditure from Education Department and Clerical votes, exclusive of that on leave pay, pensions, etc., was $30,553.13, and the revenue was $5,248.18.

Commercial Education.—There were no purely commercial schools and no separate departments for purely commercial work in any of the schools.

Industrial Education.—There were schools engaged in giving an industrial education—the Trade Schools at Kuala Lumpur and Ipoh, and that at Bagan Serai.

(*a*) The Trade School, Kuala Lumpur, admits boys from Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang. The students do a three years' course, being trained to be fitters and motor mechanics and tailors. The number of students was 111—79 from Selangor, 23 from Negri Sembilan and 9 from Pahang. Ninety-three were in the mechanics classes, the remaining 18 being in the tailoring classes. Twenty-eight mechanics completed their course in June and of these 26 have obtained employment. Thirty-one new students were admitted in July. The number of new admissions to the tailoring class was 12. Seventy-six of the boys reside in the Trade School Hostel. The revenue amounted to $1,221, $807 derived from profit on labour expended on commercial work and $414 being from fees from private fee-paying students.

(*b*) The Trade School, Ipoh, provides a general course in automobile engineering and a specialist course in the last year (3rd year). There were 70 students at this school, 59 being Malays. Twenty-four completed the three years' course in June. All except one have been found employment. Four of these receive subsidies of $10 per mensem as "improvers" in employment.

(*c*) The Trade School, Bagan Serai, provides a three years' course in carpentry. The enrolment at the end of 1936 was 37—26 in the first year, 8 in the second year and 3 in the third year. The enrolment is disappointing and the future of the school is now receiving close consideration.

A three years' course in carpentry is taught in 12 Malay schools in Perak. These classes are taught by graduates of the Bagan Serai Trade School. They are useful in bridging the gap between the ages of 12 or 13 (when a boy leaves school) and 15 or 16 when he is old enough to work, but few pupils of these

Digitized by Google

classes settle down as carpenters in after-life. One obstacle is that they lack the capital to undertake any contract worth more than a dollar or two.

Evening classes in English were held as usual at the Maxwell School in Kuala Lumpur, most of the students attending them being boys from the Trade School or the Central Workshops. A class in Précis-Writing for members of the State Clerical Service was also conducted.

Evening science classes open to the general public were held at the Victoria Institution, the course followed being an outline of general science. Eighty-three persons attended the classes; a number of subordinate officers from Government Technical departments were amongst these.

D.—University and Collegiate (Post-Secondary) Education.

The highest educational institutions in Malaya are the King Edward VII College of Medicine and Raffles College, both in Singapore. The course at the College of Medicine covers six years and is recognised by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom. Licentiates of the College are thus able to secure admission to the Colonial List of the Medical Register and to be registered as medical practitioners in any part of the British Dominions.

There is also a fully organised dental school in which a five years' course of training is given, the diploma in Dental Surgery entitling its holder to practice in Malaya.

There is a four years' course for a diploma in Pharmacy, entitling the holder to register under the Registration of Pharmacists Ordinance and to hold a licence under the Poisons and Deleterious Drugs Ordinance, thereby enabling him to practise as a dispenser in Malaya.

Raffles College was opened in 1928 in order to place education of a University standard within the reach of all youths in British Malaya who were capable of profiting by it, and to meet an urgent need for qualified teachers for secondary classes. It provides three year courses in arts and science, and diplomas are awarded to successful students.

The College awards annually ten entrance scholarships of a value of $720 a year tenable for three years, and a limited number of second and third year exhibitions, not exceeding $500 a year in value, are available for students who show exceptional ability during their first or second years at College.

Digitized by Google

The annual examination for the Queen's Scholarships was held as usual in October. There were 13 candidates for the open scholarship and 5 candidates for that confined to Malays. The scholarship open to all races was awarded to Ng Wah Hing of the Anglo-Chinese School, Ipoh, and that confined to Malays to Raja Zahar bin Raja Badiozaman of the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar. Both propose to study engineering.

E.—Vernacular Education.

Malay Vernacular Schools.—Malay vernacular education is entirely free. School buildings (as a rule), quarters for staff, staff, equipment and books are all provided by Government.

The aim in these schools is (i) to give a general and practical education to those boys and girls who will not receive an English education and who will find employment in vocations like agriculture in which a knowledge of English is not essential, and (ii) to provide preliminary vernacular education for pupils who will later receive an English education.

In 1936 there were 472 schools for boys and 82 for girls with average enrolments of 42,945 and 5,635 respectively. The figures for 1935 were 465 schools for boys and 82 for girls with average enrolments of 38,064 and 5,082 respectively. The Malay teaching staff numbered 1,375 men teachers and 246 women teachers as against 1,324 men and 227 women in 1935. There were 7,790 girls in boys' schools in the four States.

The school course normally last five years, during which period the pupils pass through five standards. In a few schools in Perak there exists a Sixth Standard. In no case is a boy allowed to stay more than two years in Standard V.

The subjects of the curriculum are reading and writing (in both the Arabic and the romanised script), composition, arithmetic, geography, Malay history, hygiene, drawing, physical training, basketry (or some other form or forms of handwork) and gardening.

In the Malay girls' schools all general subjects were taught, a shortened form of the syllabus in the boys' schools being attempted. In the Perak schools domestic science was taught, one whole day a week being given up to instruction in laundry, housecraft and cookery. Drill and practical hygiene figured as subjects on every school time-table.

Digitized by Google

Needlework was taught in all the girls' schools, and in boys' schools in which girls were numerous and to which women teachers have been appointed. The crafts taught included weaving, the making of mengkuang (screw-pine) mats and baskets, lace-making and pottery. The weaving suffered from lack of definite skilled supervision; the teachers produce fabrics from time to time but the pupils do not appear to learn much and seldom follow the craft after leaving. Better work is done in mengkuang and basket-making, in which good progress was made. Raffia and paper weaving were taught in the lower standards of girls' schools.

Gardening was taught in most of the Malay schools and there was usually a good reason for the absence of a garden at a school: sometimes a rice-plot was cultivated instead, and sometimes the local conditions were unsuitable, as, for example, at Jeram Pantai in Selangor where the school compound is inundated periodically with salt water. Regular visits were paid by officers of the Agricultural Department to practically all schools and the gardens benefited greatly from their supervision. Vegetables, fruits and basketry materials were grown. Awards are made annually to the best garden in each district. The teachers showed themselves keenly interested. The general standard of the gardens was creditable, especially as regards cleanliness; compounds also were for the most part well-kept and some reached a very high standard. Flowers are grown in all school gardens.

Sultan Idris Training College, Tanjong Malim.—At the end of the year there were 361 students, and one Kedah and one Kelantan Probationer at the College. In addition there were five students taking a post-graduate course and five craft students. One hundred and eighteen students completed their three-year course. The total expenditure was $100,606 (as against $108,924 in 1935) towards which the Unfederated Malay States contributed $44,075 for their 90 students and two Probationers.

The cost of the establishment is borne by the State of Perak in the first instance and is subsequently apportioned between the States of the Federation, the Straits Settlements and the Unfederated States. The amount paid by the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements respectively is proportionate to the number of students from each while the Unfederated Malay States pay a fixed sum for each pupil.

Digitized by Google

The College provides the highest course in Malay vernacular education obtainable in the Peninsula, while attached to it is a Translation Bureau which not only prepares the text-books required in the schools but also translates into the vernacular and sees through the press a variety of novels and books of general interest. The total cost of this bureau was $14,152 as against $14,892 in 1935.

The Federated Malay States Art Superintendent was on duty in the craft schools during the year as well as supervising the College art and handwork. The original school has been divided into smaller schools each devoted to a single craft—textiles, pottery, silverwork, weaving and carpentry. Each student studies only one craft. The total number of students in 1936 was 22. Amongst these five were post-graduate students, five special craft students from Kedah, Kelantan and Pahang and 12 local boys.

(*a*) *The Textile School.*—A new technique was added during the year, the style of printing called "Yuzen" by the Japanese. It is similar to stencilling but the method of printing and the mixture of the printing paste make possible effects beyond the range of ordinary stencilling; it is much quicker too. A demonstration of the craft was given at the Malayan Agri-Horticultural Association Show in Kuala Lumpur.

(*b*) *The Pottery School.*—This year saw the culmination of some years of experimenting with local materials. The College now has stoneware glazes which fit the body perfectly without any sign of crazing and take on many shades of colour according to temperature and atmosphere in the firing. All the materials are obtained locally and are prepared by the students.

(*c*) *The Silverwork School.*—There was only one student in this branch which lacks a competent silver-smith who can teach large work. It is hoped to remedy this shortly.

(*d*) *The Weaving School.*—Weaving was started at the beginning of the year. There are three looms in constant use now. The yarn is dyed at the College in fast colours. The first-year work was confined to sarong making in tabby or plain weaving in various colours. The finished work sold easily.

(*e*) *Minor Crafts.*—Carpentry is still carried on in a small way, chiefly in the making of blocks and other articles for textile printing. Another branch of the carpentry class carried out minor repairs to furniture. Other trades carried on in this

Digitized by Google

section are chick-making, book-binding, lamp-shade making, tailoring and reptile-skin tanning. The last mentioned craft was introduced during the year and shows signs of being a lucrative occupation if the Malays can conquer their aversion to handling the dead snakes. All these trades have their quota of local boys as trainees.

The Malay Women Teachers' Training College, Malacca, which opened in 1935, had an enrolment of 24 students drawn from the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States. The staff consisted of a Principal and an Assistant, both Europeans. The health of the students was good and there was a gratifying improvement in personal hygiene, mainly due to the popularity of "beauty" classes and to the rivalry in nicety of lingerie that arose, but one or two girls needed strict hair supervision and verminous heads continued to be still a matter of great concern; the cleansing of food utensils and dishes left much to be desired unless supervised daily, while drill in mannerly and tidy eating was very necessary. General behaviour was excellent, the students showing some aptitude in themselves arranging for amusements during their leisure time; a debating society inaugurated and managed by the students met once a week; a prefect system was introduced and worked very well indeed. By the end of the year the students were able to take notes with reasonable accuracy in sense and spelling, and the results in the final examination were distinctly better than in 1935; arithmetic and the scientific aspect of geography were subjects that remained difficult to the majority, but history made special appeal; all branches of industrial work gave great satisfaction when treated in class, but application of the training to daily life was exhibited by only a few of the students. Every student taught six criticism lessons during the year; the lessons showed vitality and, occasionally, originality on the part of the teachers, but there was usually a lack of forethought and a failure to grasp the child's difficulties. Badminton continued to be the principal game played, the bad condition of the temporary field militating against the popularity of netball; all forms of physical exercise were taught; included were class drill, country dancing and rhythm. On Fridays the students entertained to tea and games the staffs of the girls' schools in the neighbourhood and the members of the Malacca Girls' Club; in April they gave a performance of "The Sleeping Beauty" before an audience of Europeans, and in original sketches fully exhibited the natural

Digitized by Google

dramatic wit of the Malays; at a meeting held for the purpose of the presentation to the French Convent of the Badminton Cup, the students entertained 200 guests; visits to the cinema were arranged once a month whenever a suitable film was screened. All students admitted in 1935 completed two years' training by the end of the year and were appointed teachers in Malay girls' schools in December.

Chinese Vernacular Schools.—The two Government Chinese Vernacular Primary Schools at Kuala Lumpur, namely, the Chinese Free School, Davidson Road, and the Chinese Free School, Sentul, continued to function satisfactorily. At the end of the year the former had a staff of one headmaster and seven teachers and an enrolment of 240 students, while the latter had one headmaster and two teachers and 85 students. Both schools accommodate both boys and girls and the education is free. The Davidson Road School is primarily for children of poor parents and the Sentul School for the children of Railway employees.

The number of Chinese schools receiving grants-in-aid in 1936 was 168, Perak having 92 as against 70 in 1935, Selangor 51 as against 31 in 1935, Negri Sembilan 15 and Pahang 10 as against 4 and 2 respectively in 1935. The total grants paid to these schools was $115,921.50 as against $79,897 in 1935.

The grants to Chinese vernacular schools are in two grades for primary schools, $10 (£1 3*s.* 4*d.*) a year or $5 (11*s.* 8*d.*) a year for each pupil in average attendance. The grant system was extended in 1936 to Middle schools at the rate of $18 (£2 2*s.*) a year or $12 (£1 8*s.*) a year for each pupil in average attendance. In order to qualify for the higher grade, schools must teach English with reasonable efficiency and must employ for that purpose a teacher who holds the minimum qualification of a Junior Cambridge Certificate or a certificate recognised by the Adviser on Education as of equal value. In addition to these grants certain schools with Normal Classes receive a special grant of $25 (£2 18*s.* 4*d.*) a year in respect of a limited number of pupils in their normal classes. This number is determined by the number who may be reasonably expected to be absorbed as teachers in the local schools.

There are three types of schools:

(i) those managed by properly constituted committees;

(ii) pseudo-public schools, i.e., schools organised by one or more teachers who choose their own "committee members";

Digitized by Google

(iii) private schools run by a teacher who relies on the school fees for his livelihood, these schools being usually small and old in type.

There are several free schools at which a nominal fee of 50 cents (1*s*. 2*d*.) a month is charged. The fees in other schools are usually round about $2 (4*s*. 8*d*.) a month.

In almost all the private schools the native dialects of the pupils are still used in teaching, but in the other schools Colloquial Mandarin is the almost universal language of instruction. English is taught in many of the large schools and in some of the smaller. The standard is very low, but attempts have been made to improve it by insisting on a minimum qualification of a Cambridge Junior Certificate from teachers engaged solely to teach English, and by having a standard curriculum drawn up for the guidance of teachers of English.

The primary course in Chinese schools normally occupies six years. The Government has little if any control over the fees charged, the hours of attendance, or the length of holidays in any except the Aided schools. The usual school subjects are found in the curriculum.

In January four Middle schools in Sitiawan were amalgamated to form the Nan Hwa High School, the only purely secondary school in the Federated Malay States. There are, in addition, 12 Chinese schools (four in Perak, four in Selangor, three in Negri Sembilan and one in Pahang) which have developed beyond the primary stage and have secondary departments. The Confucian Boys' School, Kuala Lumpur, started a Senior Middle Department with an enrolment of 18 at the commencement of the second school term in August, 1935. It is intended to convert this class into a Normal Class. There were 628 boys attending these schools at the end of 1936.

Secondary vernacular education for Chinese girls was provided at one girls' school and three mixed schools in Perak, one girls' school and two mixed schools in Selangor, three mixed schools in Negri Sembilan and at one mixed school in Pahang. There were 232 girls attending these schools at the end of the year.

Normal Classes for the training of teachers were started in January by two schools in Perak and two in Selangor. For grant-in-aid purposes, a total of 75 pupils was allowed for each State. It is hoped that these classes will have the effect of improving the standard of teaching in the primary schools.

Digitized by Google

The second joint Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States inter-school examination for Chinese schools was held in December. There were 1,035 candidates from the schools in the Federated Malay States. One hundred and thirteen schools were represented of which 92 were aided. The examination was for the graduating forms of the Junior Middle and Upper Primary Departments, and all public schools which had a participating class and which were at a convenient distance joined in the examination. There were four examination centres in Perak, three in Selangor, one in Negri Sembilan and one in Pahang. In the Junior Middle Section, 225 candidates sat and 61 or 27.11 per cent. passed. In the Upper Primary Section there were 782 candidates of whom 276 or 35.29 per cent. passed. The results show considerable improvement over those of 1935.

For the first time the department organised inter-school sports in Kuala Lumpur and Ipoh for Selangor and Perak schools respectively. The Selangor sports were held on August 12th and 13th on the Victoria Institution ground. Fifty-four schools with 692 competitors took part. The Perak sports were held on August 28th and 29th at the Chinese Town Hall ground, Ipoh. Fifty-five schools with 974 competitors took part. Cups, challenge shields and medals were presented by prominent Chinese in each State. The meetings were a success and it is intended to make them annual events.

At the close of the year there were 420 registered Chinese schools with 1,362 registered teachers. The total enrolment was 33,826, of which 8,828 were girls. Compared with the previous year there is an increase of 26 schools, 150 teachers, 3,292 boys and 1,006 girls.

Tamil Vernacular Schools.—At the end of the year there were 13 Government vernacular schools as in 1935—8 in Perak, 4 in Selangor and 1 in Negri Sembilan. In addition there were 345 aided schools (as against 297 in 1935). There were 15,686 pupils in both Government and aided schools, a total increase of 2,915 pupils on the 1935 figures. Though co-education is not a policy, a number of girls attend boys' schools. In 1936 there were 5,260 girls in Government and aided boys' schools. In Perak there was one school exclusively for girls run by the Roman Catholic Missionaries.

No fees are charged in Government and Estates' schools but in some of the schools run by private bodies the pupils pay. There is usually an arrrangement in such schools whereby poor

Digitized by Google

children pay little or nothing. Government schools and private aided schools generally produce better work than the average estate school, but on estates where the labour force has been settled for years the standard of the work is as good as in town schools.

A new Assistant Inspector of Tamil Schools was appointed in Perak in February to fill the vacancy caused by the death of his predecessor and the considerable increase in the number of schools necessitated the appointment of an additional Tamil Visiting Teacher in July.

The post of Tamil Assistant Inspector of Schools was restored in Negri Sembilan and the officer who was officiating in that capacity until retrenched in December, 1933, was reappointed.

There was no provision for the training of Tamil teachers.

The total grant paid to aided Tamil schools in 1936 amounted to $70,626 as against $55,739 in 1935.

F.—Recreation, Music, Art and Drama.

Recreation.—Every encouragement was given to pupils to participate in school games. In almost all English boys' schools the maximum amount of games and organised sports, normally of the "team" variety, is provided. Nearly all schools have one or more Scout Troops and some of the big schools have Cadet Corps in addition.

Cricket grows more and more popular. Football (association), hockey, volley ball, basket ball, tennis and badminton are played at most schools. Rugby football is played and gymnastics provided at some of the bigger schools.

In all English girls' schools, as in boys' schools, drill and games are now compulsory. Some girls' schools play basket ball and have tennis and badminton courts.

Physical training reaches a good standard in Malay boys' schools, and association football, encouraged by inter-school competitions, is much indulged in. Cricket has been taken up by two schools in Perak.

The guide movement received considerable impetus from the official visit to Malaya of an officer specially qualified to take training courses. The scout organization during the year recorded special extension in the Rover Scout movement which rendered much useful service to the various school troops and packs. Malacca won the competition for the Scout District

Digitized by Google

with the best Malay School Troops in the Peninsula. In the parallel competition for the best English School troops, Negri Sembilan, was placed first and Penang second.

Music.—Music is taught in all Convent schools and occasionally elsewhere. Singing is taught in the lower forms of all schools. Most schools have gramophones and a few have pianos. Cadet Corps and a few Scout Troops have their own bands.

Handwork and Art.—Handwork is taught under the supervision of trained European mistresses in the primary and elementary departments. The following subjects were included in the curriculum: paper cutting, folding, tearing and modelling, clay and plasticine modelling, cardboard modelling, stick-laying, bead-stringing, paper flower making, raffia work and woodwork. All English girls' schools teach needlework; a very high standard is generally attained.

Drama.—The drama forms part of the English curriculum of all English schools. The lower standards act simple plays and dramatic stories. The senior boys and girls perform scenes from Shakespeare.

CHAPTER X.

Communications and Transport.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS, TELEPHONES AND WIRELESS.

Posts.—During the year under review, full postal facilities were provided at 101 post offices in the charge of officers of the Posts and Telegraphs Department. Restricted postal services were performed at 73 postal agencies by officers of the Customs Department, Railway Station Masters and others who acted as postal agents. There were 173 persons licensed to sell stamps.

A postal agency was opened on the 1st February, 1936, at Ulu Bernam Estate, in Perak, and another was established at Karak, in Pahang, on the 1st October, 1936. The Customs Department's officer at the Batu Laut Postal Agency in Selangor was replaced by an officer of the Posts and Telegraphs Department on the 20th August, 1936.

At the end of the year 315 posting boxes were in use over and above those available at post offices and postal agencies.

During the period under review 245 licences for the collection of letters for transmission to China under the clubbed packet system were issued. Under this system certain Chinese

Digitized by Google

shop-keepers are privileged to send to China a number of letters bundled together in a single packet. These letters comprise advices of remittances sent by Chinese immigrants in Malaya to their dependents in China. The shop-keeper receives the money and advises his agent in China by letter of the amount in local currency remitted and to whom the money is to be paid.

The expansion of the air-mail services made rapid strides during 1936. The more important developments were (*a*) the inauguration on the 23rd March, 1936, of the Imperial Airways once-weekly service between Penang and Hong Kong; and (*b*) the duplication as from the 15th May, 1936, of the Qantas Empire Airways' weekly service between Singapore and Australia. The Penang-Hong Kong air service is of special importance to Malaya; it affords a gain of about three days over surface transport to Hong Kong, and is used also for the transmission of letters addressed to China, Japan, Macao and the Philippine Islands with a very considerable saving in time. The large extent to which this service is already being used by the Malayan public gives ample proof of the benefits bestowed upon the general community.

The extension of the air-mail money order service to Hong Kong, China, Japan, Macao and the Philippine Islands on the 28th March, 1936, the general introduction of combined air and postage fees for letters and postcards on the 1st April and the admission to the air-mail service to Hong Kong of clubbed packets (remittance letters) for China on the 8th May are other developments worthy of mention.

The average weekly weight of mail from Malaya to Great Britain conveyed by the Imperial Airways Service steadily increased throughout the year from 361 lbs. in January to 390 lbs. in November. The heaviest mails during the year were those despatched in December with their Christmas and New Year Greetings traffic; the three mails during the period ended the 20th December totalled 1,616 lbs. compared with 1,536 lbs. during the corresponding period in 1935.

Money Orders.—Money order business is transacted at all post offices and at certain postal agencies, and during the year 310,237 money orders to the value of $13,842,117 were issued and paid, representing an increase of 12,637 in number and $1,153,045 in value over the 1935 figures. Telegraph money orders included in the main 1936 total amounted to 17,883 in number and $1,808,232 in value.

Digitized by Google

Savings Bank.—The number of depositors in the Federated Malay States Government Savings Bank on the 31st December, 1936, was 76,759 as compared with 67,840 on the 31st December, 1935, representing an increase of 13 per cent. During the year 16,840 new accounts were opened while 7,921 accounts were closed.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors on the 31st December, 1936, was $8,939,223 as compared with $7,578,619 on the 31st December, 1935. The average amount to the credit of each depositor was $116 as compared with an average of $112 per depositor in 1935.

There were 48,196 withdrawals on demand during the year as against 47,327 in 1935 and 374 withdrawals by telegraph as compared with 434 in 1935.

Telegraphs.—The number of postal telegraph offices in the Federated Malay States is 103.

The total number of telegrams sent and received in the course of the year was 393,057, a decrease of approximately 2 per cent. compared with 1935 figures. The total value of telegraph business including Government messages sent free of charge increased from $173,519 in 1935 to $189,894 in 1936, an increase of approximately 9 per cent.

The total numbers of Inland Greetings Telegrams handed in during the year were as follows:

Christmas and New Year	840
Chinese New Year	165
Hari Raya Puasa	222
Deepavali	163
Hindu New Year	25

During the year the new service indication "NLT" was introduced, denoting Night Letter Telegrams Service (Foreign). This service at present operates between Malaya and Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Irish Free State and Hong Kong only. These telegrams generally follow the rules for Daily Letter Telegrams as regards charge and special services admitted except that the normal delivery will be on the morning after the day of handing in.

Satisfactory teleprinter (telegraph) working was maintained on the main telegraph circuits throughout the year and, in continuation of the policy to eliminate morse working, the Ipoh-Penang morse circuit was replaced by teleprinter.

Digitized by Google

The following morse circuits were converted to telephone-telegram working:

Taiping-Ayer Tawar-Sitiawan-Lumut.

Railway telegraphs and allied services.—The Federated Malay States Railway Department's telegraph, telephone, block and tablet signalling systems and other miscellaneous apparatus were maintained in a satisfactory condition throughout the year under the supervision of the Posts and Telegraphs Department's Engineers. The Railway Department's telephone exchanges at Kuala Lumpur and Port Swettenham were closed on the 29th February, 1936, telephone service being provided on and from that date by direct connections to the public exchanges.

Works carried out during the year included the re-wiring of the station and hotel buildings in Kuala Lumpur and re-arrangement of the through block section working in Perak.

Telephones.—The number of telephones in service continues to increase and at the end of the year under review 4,619 direct exchange lines were connected to the Federated Malay States telephone system as compared with 4,223 at the end of 1935. Miscellaneous electric signalling equipments, such as fire alarms and private bells are also rented to the public by the Department and the number of such items in use at the close of the year was 610.

The nett revenue derived from telephones during the year was $1,038,238, an apparent decrease of $30,742 as compared with 1935. This apparent decrease was due to a reorganisation of the telephone accounting system involving collection of rentals for shorter periods in advance. There was in fact an increase in revenue. Included in the 1936 revenue figure above is $450,349 derived from trunk and junction services, representing an increase of $27,711 over the previous year.

The Department now maintains 84 telephone exchanges for public service. There are three general types, namely—

(*a*) Fifty-eight manual exchanges. All switching at these exchanges is performed by operators.

(*b*) Seventeen full automatic exchanges. Subscribers connected to these exchanges obtain their own local connections by dialling, and have access to an operator (usually at a remote exchange) for trunk and junction calls.

Digitized by Google

(*c*) Nine semi-automatic exchanges. Connections on these exchanges are set up by an operator at a remote exchange, to which the apparatus routes all calls. Subscribers are not provided with dialling devices and this type of working is practicable only at very small exchanges up to 10 lines.

During the year four new telephone exchanges were provided to open up service in rural areas. Of these one was full automatic, three semi-automatic. Two full automatic exchanges were converted to an improved type which provides facilities for dialling numbers on remote exchanges, and for dialling through one exchange of this type to another connected "in tandem".

A new type of rural semi-automatic exchange equipment, using relays only for making the necessary connections, was also introduced for sparsely populated areas. It has a capacity of 10 lines and requires to be connected to a "parent" manual exchange through which all calls pass.

The installation of C.B. 10-type manual exchange equipment at Seremban to replace the old exchange, which has seen many years of service, was commenced towards the end of the year.

Owing to the opening of the new exchanges mentioned above, and to general increase of traffic it was necessary to provide the following trunk and junction circuits during the year:

Bidor-Tapah	1	channel
Batu Kurau-Taiping	1	,,
Klang-Port Swettenham	2	channels
Kuala Lumpur-Klang	2	,,
Ampang-Kuala Lumpur	2	,,
Ipoh-Sungei Siput	1	channel
Tampin-Malacca	1	,,
Parit Buntar-Nebong Tebal	1	,,
Kuala Lumpur-Kuala Kubu	1	,,
Ipoh-Kuala Kangsar	1	,,
Taiping-Bagan Serai	1	,,
Ipoh-Sitiawan	2	channels
Bruas-Taiping	1	channel
Bruas-Sitiawan	1	,,
Tampin-Tebong	1	,,
Rompin-Bahau	1	,,
Utan Melintang-Sabak Bernam	2	channels

Digitized by Google

Radio telephone services continued in operation between Malaya and—

(*a*) Java, Madoera and Bali.

(*b*) Philippine Islands. Zones I, II and III.

(*c*) North Sumatra.

(*d*) Macassar (Isle of Celebes).

(*e*) Siam (Bangkok only).

Preliminary arrangements were continued for a radio-telephone service from Malaya to Great Britain and other European countries via Java.

Wireless.—The wireless stations in Selangor, Pahang, and Upper Perak maintained satisfactory short wave services and operated efficiently throughout the year under review.

The number of messages dealt with was 54,816 compared with 43,406 in 1935 an increase of 26 per cent.

Aeronautical services continued to be operated from the Petaling Hill Wireless Station, and during interruptions to the normal telegraphic communication with Singapore and Penang communication was maintained through this station.

Radio telephone services are carried out from Petaling Hill and the particulars of these services appear under the section relating to telephones.

Radio telephony tests with Saigon in French Indo-China continued throughout the year and arrangements were made for a public service to commence on the 4th January, 1937.

Broadcasting on behalf of the Malayan Amateur Radio Society was also carried out from the Petaling Hill Station. Programmes were as a general rule radiated thrice weekly.

The number of Broadcast Listeners Licences in force at the end of the year was 2,459 as compared with 1,589 in 1935. The number of wireless dealers licensed was 53.

Electrical interference with broadcast reception continued to occupy the attention of the Department. The majority of complaints again originated in areas served by direct current supplies where small electrical machines are the chief source of interference.

Digitized by Google

Financial.—The nett revenue collected during 1936 by the Posts and Telegraphs Department in the Federated Malay States was $3,028,992. This is an increase of $151,167 compared with the corresponding figure in 1935 (with Federal reimbursement included). Annually recurrent charges including personal emoluments amounted to $2,395,972 against $2,331,386 in the previous year, an increase of $64,586. Special expenditure amounted to $36,643 against $129,430 in the previous year, a decrease of $92,787. Expenditure on loan account amounted to $362,215. No expenditure on loan account was incurred during the preceding year. The total of special expenditure and expenditure on loan account in 1936 amounted to $398,858 which is greater by $269,428 than the total of special expenditure in 1935. These revenue and expenditure figures do not include the value of services rendered free of charge by the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

Railways.

The Railways of Malaya, which are such a vital factor in the communications of this country, are owned by the Federated Malay States Government, except for the portion in Johore which is held on lease from that State.

Starting in the south at Singapore and going northwards the line traverses the Island of Singapore, leaving behind its masses of shipping, the Naval Base and what will be one of the most commodious and up-to-date Air Ports in the world and itself an important link in the communications of the Empire.

Crossing the Straits of Johore to the mainland on a causeway which also carries a road, the line continues through the State of Johore passing through large areas of jungle alternating with pineapple, rubber and oil-palm plantations until at the 136th mile from Singapore it enters the Federated Malay States territory at Gemas in the State of Negri Sembilan.

From Gemas one line runs north through a very interesting country of wonderful forests, fast flowing rivers and great mountains until eventually it reaches Tumpat, a port on the China Sea in the Unfederated State of Kelantan. A small branch line breaks off at Pasir Mas and runs to Sungei Golok on the Siamese border which is connected by rail with Bangkok, the capital of Siam.

Digitized by Google

The main line from Singapore to Penang runs west and north from Gemas, leaving the well-known historical town of Malacca on its left and onwards through Seremban to Kuala Lumpur, the Federal Capital—a real Garden City. From this point various lines radiate, the main one to the north passing through Ipoh, the surrounding district of which is the richest tin-bearing area in the world, and then on through Taiping to Prai, the port opposite Penang Island. A few miles south of Prai another line deviates to the Siamese border, passing through the Unfederated States of Kedah and Perlis. At the border station Padang Besar, connection is made with the Royal State Railways of Siam, and it is over this line that the express trains run from Penang to Bangkok.

The entire journey over the Federated Malay States Railways is of great interest, tropical verdure and plantation intermingling with tin mines, many of which are operated by huge dredges looking like ocean steamers in the distance. The native population adds charm to the views by the wonderful varieties of colours in their costumes, the shades of which never clash.

Journeys are made as comfortable as in any other part of the world by the provision of restaurant cars, modern and tastefully decorated buffet cars incorporating the latest ideas in seating accommodation, air-conditioned first class coaches and commodious and well-appointed sleeping saloons.

By various branch lines the main line is connected to ports on the west coast of the country, the chief of which is Port Swettenham in the State of Selangor which has been transformed from an area of mangrove swamps and muddy rivers into a thriving port where ocean steamers can come alongside the well-equipped wharves.

In common with many railways throughout the world the Federated Malay States Railways have been faced with intense competition from road traffic and have built up a system of road distribution from all important stations, in addition to which they have connected up many outlying districts to the railway by means of regular road transport. Services by motor cars to and from the hill stations in Malaya are operated by the railway in conjunction with their train services.

Digitized by Google

Below are given certain statistics regarding the Federated Malay States Railways and the traffic handled:

MILEAGES, MAIN LINES AND BRANCHES.

	Miles.
Singapore-Prai	488
Gemas-Tumpat	328
Pasir Mas-Sungei Golok	13
Tampin-Malacca	21
Seremban-Port Dickson	25
Sungei Besi-Sultan Street	8
Sultan Street-Ampang	6
Kuala Lumpur-Port Swettenham	27
Kuala Lumpur-Batu Caves	8
Kuang-Batang Berjuntai	14
Tapah Road-Teluk Anson	18
Ipoh-Tronoh	15
Taiping-Port Weld	8
Bukit Mertajam-Padang Besar	99
Padang Besar-Bangkok (Royal State Railways of Siam)	615

LENGTH OF LINE (FIRST TRACK).

In the Federated Malay States	614
In the Straits Settlements	98
In the Unfederated Malay States	356
	1,068

Item.	1936.	1935.	1934.
Length of line (first track), miles...	1,068	1,068	1,068
Gauge	Metre	Metre	Metre
No. of permanent stations ...	213	213	214
No. of flag stations	80	77	72
	$	$	$
Expenditure on Capital Account on 31st December:	227,379,154	235,249,526	235,288,207
From Loan Funds	50,036,123	49,834,323	49,735,103
From Revenue Advances ...	113,936,593	113,934,121	114,072,024
From Railway Revenue ...	63,406,438	71,481,081	71,481,081
Gross Receipts	13,086,733	11,871,097	11,284,147

Digitized by Google

Item.	1936.	1935.	1934.
	$	$	$
Expenditure chargeable to Revenue Account (excluding Renewals Fund Contribution)	10,312,376 ...	10,097,340 ...	9,709,390
Contribution to Renewals Fund ...	1,927,045 ...	1,773,757 ...	1,574,757
Expenditure on Capital Account ...	220,363 ...	99,270 ...	17,540
Expenditure from Renewals Fund	771,179 ...	737,683 ...	435,883
Balance of Renewals Fund on 31st December	11,676,571 ...	8,514,237 ...	7,478,164
Receipts from passenger train traffic	4,423,840 ...	4,431,386 ...	3,958,677
No. of passengers (exclusive of season tickets)	6,877,055 ...	6,137,540 ...	5,498,159
No. of season tickets	12,106 ...	11,429 ...	11,230
Receipts from goods train traffic	6,470,430 ...	5,269,786 ...	5,256,109
Tons conveyed :			
(*a*) Revenue Earning	1,666,631 ...	1,302,465 ...	1,202,997
(*b*) Departmental	236,608 ...	210,689 ...	199,987
Receipts from road motor collection and delivery services	190,077 ...	160,148 ...	144,219
Receipts from miscellaneous services (rents, docks, ferries, etc.) ...	2,002,386 ...	2,009,777 ...	1,925,142
No. of ocean steamers dealt with at Port Swettenham	1,066 ...	983 ...	886

Roads.

The road system of the Federated Malay States comprises a total of 2,964 miles of which 2,055 miles or 69.67 per cent., are bituminously treated. The provision for maintenance was in general increased following the general improvement is financial conditions and totalled $2,171,685. The average cost of maintenance was $715 per mile as compared with $691 in 1935 and $566 in 1936.

It is to be remembered that a large proportion of the roads in Malaya were laid out for bullock or horse vehicle traffic when consideration of gradient was of primary importance and alignment was a secondary matter. The advent of mechanical transport has altered this, and though annoyance may be felt at the apparently poor alignment of some of the roads motorists might nevertheless admire the ingenuity of the engineers and surveyors who had to lay out the roads in dense jungle to a gradient not exceeding one in forty (1 in 40).

The main trunk road from Penang to Singapore has a bituminously treated surface throughout and for the major portion of the way is a good motor road.

Digitized by Google

Shipping.

The number and tonnage of merchant vessels entered and cleared at Port Swettenham during the last three years were as follows:

	No. of vessels.	Tons.
1934	2,873 ...	6,378,361
1935	2,865 ...	6,6[illegible]0,985
1936	2,961 ...	6,944,778

The number and tonnage of ocean-going steamers entered and cleared at this port were as follows:

	No. of vessels.	Tons.
1934	1,869 ...	5,882,621
1935	1,945 ...	6,165,547
1936	2,053 ...	6,481,844

The number of ocean-going steamers which came alongside the wharf was 380 against 334 in the previous year. The largest vessel entering the port of Port Swettenham during the year was the Blue Funnel s.s. "Philoctetes" of 11,446 tons. The vessel with the deepest draught was the Blue Funnel s.s. "Calchas" drawing 31′ 1″.

The following table shows the nationality, number and tonnage of ocean-going merchant vessels entered and cleared at Port Swettenham during 1936:

Nationality.	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
American	11	39,044	11	39,044	22	78,088
British	627	2,245,431	626	2,242,655	1,253	4,488,086
Chinese	5	6,945	5	6,945	10	13,890
Danish	40	161,092	40	161,092	80	322,184
Dutch	121	233,655	121	233,655	242	467,310
French	3	6,860	3	6,860	6	13,720
German	49	221,892	49	221,892	98	443,784
Italian	1	3,708	1	3,708	2	7,416
Japanese	49	202,694	49	202,694	98	405,388
Norwegian	117	117,837	117	117,837	234	235,674
Siamese	4	3,152	4	3,152	8	6,304
	1,027	3,242,310	1,026	3,239,534	2,053	6,481,844

A reduction of 5 per cent. on all pilotage fees was in effect throughout the year.

Air Services.

The aeroplane landing ground, Taiping, continues in very good condition and was used by 220 aircraft during the year compared with 184 during 1935.

Digitized by Google

The emergency landing ground at Simpang Ampat, a rectangle measuring 1,000 yards by 300 yards was completed at a total cost of $24,959 but was not declared open pending consolidation of the earthwork and the complete grassing over the area.

The landing ground at Ipoh was completed at a total cost of $74,839 and in August was declared open for light aircraft not exceeding 2,500 pounds laden. An office, store and coolie lines have been erected; a petrol pump is available. The ground has two runways 700 yards by 200 yards and 600 yards by 300 yards respectively, and is regularly used by the Perak Flying Club which has erected a club house and hangar.

The work of conditioning an area of 600 yards by 180 yards on the Kuala Lumpur Aerodrome was completed satisfactorily and this landing ground is now licensed for aircraft up to 5,000 pounds gross weight. The landing area has been used by the Kuala Lumpur Flying Club throughout the year and in addition private aeroplanes, Penang, Singapore and Perak Flying Club planes and Royal Air Force machines have made use of the ground.

The Air Ministry decided, with the agreement of the Government of the State of Selangor, to provide the necessary funds to condition two runways on the Port Swettenham landing ground and to this end a sum of $177,000 was put at the disposal of the Department of Public Works. The scheme which was prepared jointly by the Superintending Engineer, Royal Air Force, Far East, and by the Public Works Department provided for laying 12 inches of consolidated laterite gravel over two areas each 700 yards by 120 yards and so make two runways in the shape of a letter "L" in the direction of the prevailing winds. The scheme provided for suitable drainage and doming of the existing formation and also for providing a water-proofed surface of bituminous treated laterite metal on the NE-SW runway. Work commenced in April, 1936; the method of execution being by direct labour, contractors being employed for the supply of the necessary laterite gravel and metal. At the close of the year 80 per cent. of the work was completed and an expenditure of $153,000 incurred. It is hoped that when the work is completed in May, 1937, it will be possible for all types of aircraft to land at the Port Swettenham Aerodrome in all weathers.

Digitized by Google

The Kuantan River provides excellent alighting and take-off facilities for flying-boats of the largest types. Permanent moorings for flying-boats and sea-planes have been established in the river and these are used by the flying-boats of the Royal Air Force whenever they visit.

CHAPTER XI.

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures.

Banking.

The principal banks doing business in the Federated Malay States are as follows:

Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China—six branches.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation—two branches.

The Mercantile Bank of India Limited—four branches.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks in the Federation but agricultural and building loans are granted by the Planters' Loans Board—a Government institution with a capital of $4,000,000.

Currency.

The standard coin is the Straits Settlements dollar with a par value of two shillings and four pence.

Currency notes issued by the Straits Settlements Currency Commissioners together with the Straits Settlements silver dollar and fifty-cent piece are legal tender to any amount throughout the Federation.

Weights and Measures.

Under Enactment 16 of 1921 the standard weights and measures are:

(i) The Imperial standard pound.
(ii) ,, ,, yard
(iii) ,, ,, gallon.

Other weights in common use are:

10 huns	... ...	=1 chi
10 chi	... ...	=1 tahil (1⅓ oz.)
16 tahils	... ...	=1 kati
100 katies	... ...	=1 pikul (133⅓ lbs.)
40 pikuls	... ...	=1 koyan

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XII.

Public Works.

The Public Works Establishment consists of the Adviser, Public Works, who is Director, Public Works, Straits Settlements, and has headquarters in Singapore, four State Engineers, nine Senior Executive Engineers and 27 Executive and Assistant Engineers with a subordinate staff of Technical Assistants and Overseers who are recruited through a system of apprenticeship.

The authorised provision for Public Works and Personal Emoluments was $8,829,535 of which $7,442,165 was spent under the heads shown below:

	1936.		1935.	
	Provision.	Expenditure.	Provision.	Expenditure.
	$	$	$	$
Annually Recurrent ...	3,923,188.00	3,839,396.13	3,854,994.60	3,777,964.79
Other Charges and Personal Emoluments ...	1,216,048.00	1,147,072.08	220,124.40 (excluding Personal Emoluments)	196,747.69
Special Services ...	3,402,633.77	2,251,014.07	1,801,668.55 (including Loan and Revenue Account)	1,506,487.76
Loan and Revenue Account	287,665.43	204,683.42		

In addition to the above a sum of $337,135 was spent on works carried out for other departments making a total of $7,779,301. The expenditure was 84.28 per cent. of the provision and the cost of administration was 13.80 per cent. of the amount spent.

The comparative percentages of expenditure to authorised provision for the last three years were:

	1936.	1935.	1934.
(*a*) Annually Recurrent ...	97.87	98.0	95.5
(*b*) Other Charges ... ... (including P.E.)	94.33	89.4	84.0
(*c*) Special Services ...	66.15	83.6 (including Loan and Revenue Account)	47.5
(*d*) Loan and Revenue a/c	71.15		

Digitized by Google

The funds provided for maintenance of buildings were not sufficient to permit of any great reduction being made in the arrears of maintenance left over from the depression period during which the provision was only sufficient to carry out maintenance necessary for the safety of the buildings. There are 14,421 buildings of a total value of $85,161,000 to be maintained and the expenditure on maintenance was $991,900 or 1.16 per cent. of the capital value. This shows a slight increase on the figures for 1934 and 1935 which were .863 and .995 per cent. respectively.

Out of a total provision of $3,402,633 for Special Services $2,251,014 or 66.15 per cent. was expended. There is only one scheme of major importance in hand, namely, the accommodation for the Malay Regiment, Port Dickson. The estimated cost of this work is $1,400,000 of which $573,714 was spent during the year. Very satisfactory progress was made in spite of the difficulty of obtaining delivery of materials from Europe.

Two interesting innovations were adopted during the year. The plans for the new strong rooms for the Federal Treasury, Kuala Lumpur, provide for air conditioning and the plans for the Seremban Abattoir include an electric lethaler in the pig slaughter-house.

Good progress was made in the extension of the Sungei Buloh Leper Settlement, 46 houses being completed. A start was made on the new market for the Kuala Lumpur Sanitary Board which is estimated to cost $310,000. The building is so designed that the roof can form the floor of an extra storey and so provide for the future extension of the market which owing to the limitations of the site cannot be extended at ground level.

Water supplies have been maintained in an efficient manner during the year. There was no shortage and the regular analyses of samples showed satisfactory results. There are 41 water supplies in the Federation and full statistics are available for 27 of these. The capital value of these 27 supplies is $17,947,666. During the year 6,531 million gallons were supplied and a nett revenue of $1,012,354 over the cost of upkeep was collected. This is 5.64 per cent. of the capital cost, but it must be remembered that there are capital and overhead charges to be deducted from the gross profit.

A new steel concrete lined syphon with six ball and socket joints 320 feet long was floated across the Kinta River at Parit Buntar on steel pontoons and successfully sunk in position.

Digitized by Google

Further progress was made on the New Kinta District Water Supply which had been suspended during the depression period. Improvements were undertaken to the Lumut, Kuala Kangsar, Tapah and Bagan Serai Water Supplies. A start was made on three new water supplies in Parit, Enggor end Selema. The new purification plant at Kuala Pilah was completed and analyses showed that the filtrate was up to a very satisfactory standard.

The gradual elimination of old fashioned methods of sanitation by the construction of septic tanks for all new quarters and the provision of them for older quarters was continued but the position is still far from the standard desired.

During the year the Government Factory carried out major repairs to Government plant and motor lorries as well as fabricating the structural steelwork for some bridges and buildings.

A further contribution to technical literature was made by the Public Works Department during the year by the publication of a "Report on Modern Sewage Treatment" by Mr. A. G. Cooke, B. ENG., A.M.INST.C.E., an Executive Engineer in the department. The publication received very striking praise from the Technical Press in England, and there is a growing demand for copies from various parts of the world.

DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION.

Krian Irrigation.—The planted area remained about the same as in the previous year at 49,118 acres, but the yield estimated at 17¼ million gantangs is not as good mainly due to weather conditions during the tillering period.

The cost of maintenance during the year was $60,817 embracing the upkeep of:

Irrigation reservoir and headworks;
48.5 miles of canals;
252.5 miles of distributaries;
261 miles of drain;
283 water-gates and regulators;
103 syphons; and
68.3 miles of bund

together with many items of the works newly constructed, mainly 10 new syphons and 10 new water-gates, 393 chains of drains, 559 chains of distributaries and 340 chains of bund in the Kurau Forest Reserve.

Digitized by Google

Revenue for the year amounted to $130,666 and is the highest on record, being $7,190 higher than in the previous best record year of 1923. The excess of revenue over the year's expenditure is $33,784 which clearly reflects the measure of prosperity returning to the Krian cultivators.

Under Capital Account there are additions amounting to $153,520 on account of expenditure on the Krian extension scheme, Kurau Forest Reserve bund and surveys and investigations.

Krian Extension Scheme.—The scheme embraced the diversion of the dry weather flow of the Sungei Ijok by means of a canal four miles long into the Merah watershed and thence to the reservoir. The increased supply was calculated to meet the needs of the cultivators in the Sungei Acheh area of Province Wellesley adjacent to the Perak boundary, a new area of 3,000 acres in the Kurau Forest Reserve, and 750 acres near Bukit Merah. The proposed increased supply also provided better control over higher lands in the existing area of which some 2,000 acres were estimated to benefit. The area irrigated would therefore be increased from 50,000 to 60,000 acres.

The scheme which was estimated to be completed in three years at a cost of $375,000, half of which sum is contributed by the Government of the Straits Settlements, was nearing completion at the end of the year.

The concrete structures comprising a diversion dam and intake works costing $26,014, a flume across the Sungei Segar, $6,183, and various cross drainage culverts were all put in hand in 1936 and completed within the year.

The Krian Coastal Bund extends from the Perak-Province Wellesley boundary to Kuala Kurau and is approximately 12 miles in length. The bund traverses mangrove forest throughout its length and protects from inundation by the sea, an area of 3,000 acres at present in forest for conversion into padi land. A sum of $42,500 has been provided for its construction and will be recovered by premia on the land reclaimed. Approximately 84,000 cubic yards of bund had been made by the end of 1936.

The extension of irrigation to the area of 3,000 acres was completed in 1936.

A plan for the settlement of the area was completed during the year and sent to the Land Office.

Digitized by Google

The new capital works executed for the Krian scheme from 1932 to 1936 have cost in all in round figures $600,000. Infinite pains have been taken both in their design and construction and the year 1937 should see them all in full operation in a manner convincing of their utility and lasting endurance.

Sungei Manik Irrigation Scheme.—The irrigation of an area in virgin jungle is novel in that there is no previous experience of the kind. Irrigation has to be provided in advance of settlement to ensure crops from the first year of occupation. The whole of the investigations have therefore to be conducted in the jungle and with a limited staff and the measure of success of these methods is indicated by the progress made to the end of 1936 which is as follows:

	Total length completed in miles. 1932-1936.	Length completed in miles. 1936.
Main irrigation canals (*tali ayer*) ...	40	2
Distributary irrigation canals ...	18	4½
Main drains	10	2
Total ...	68	8½
Bunds total ...	14	6

There was thus a total of 68 miles of canals and drains and 14 miles of bunds completed in the area at the close of the year.

The acreages alienated and planted are as under:

Area of land alienated on 31st December, 1936 (on title and T.O.L.)	6,494 acres
Area of land planted with padi on 31st December, 1936	4,633 ,,

Total capital expenditure to 31st December, 1936, is $226,994.

Total acreage served by the irrigation works—$8,023. Capital cost per acre at 31st December, 1936—$28.

The maintenance work was done by an entirely Malay labour force recruited from amongst the bendang owners. The task work system was followed as much as possible and a high standard of maintenance was obtained.

The planted area for the 1936-1937 season is approximately 60 per cent. greater than that of the previous year and a good crop averaging about 400 gantangs per acre is expected.

Digitized by Google

In spite of the unusually dry conditions prevailing in the first four months of the irrigation season a plentiful supply of water was available for the first stage area and irrigation was everywhere satisfactory.

The area is proving very popular with Malays and there is no lack of applications for land. The change in the scene in the five years of construction is remarkable; vast stretches of swampy jungle have been converted into thriving rice fields with a resident Malay population now in excess of 5,000; access paths have been made, schools erected and with the co-operation of all Government departments what appears to be a model settlement for an agricultural population is in course of evolution.

Except for a control gate and some small works construction of first and second stages, as planned, is now complete. The expenditure for the year was $80,859.

The lower second stage bund along the Batang Padang River was completed and the machine transported on pontoon by water to the north boundary of the first and third stages where construction on the Lampam bund was commenced. In the last two months it had very difficult work in a flooded area. the water being at times over the wheel-race. The main canal and distributaries for the lower second stage along with the drainage was completed with the exception of the outfall gate.

The Chikus distribution weir controlling the supply to the lower second stage was completed and also a supply known as *Tali Ayer* No. 4 to Tukang Sedin bendangs, and portions of the lower second stage from first stage headworks were completed.

Construction costs were rising all year and latterly it became difficult to get contractors to tender for work; presumably work on estates and tin mines is more attractive.

In all 80,765 cubic yards of earthwork was completed during the year and of this 61,767 cubic yards was placed by the dragline excavator.

Pumping Schemes, Perak Riverine Areas.—The Bota pumping scheme functioned for its second season and a satisfactory supply was maintained. Pumping for the crop commenced on 15th July, the plant running for 24 hours per day. Supply was continuous till 16th December except for stops for minor adjustments and periods when rainfall was sufficient. No further pumping was required after 16th December as the supply was sufficient for the crops.

Digitized by Google

The dry weather of May-August produced very thirsty land, especially in the lower bendangs and preliminary saturation took a long time.

The crop is expected to be good on a planted area of 1,730 acres.

The pumped supply for the second scheme at Pulau Tiga was started by the Raja Muda on the 29th October. One thousand and seven hundred acres were planted, dependent mostly this year on direct rainfall.

At the end of the year the main canal was complete for a length of some six miles.

Bruas Irrigation Area.—The dam and *tali ayer* constructed in 1935 functioned satisfactorily. At the end of the year's irrigation supply which lasted from May to December, there was no accumulation of silt either above the dam or in the *tali ayer* and apart from some minor repairs to pitching no expenditure need be incurred. An abundant supply was available to the 500 acres in the area.

No departmental expenditure was incurred other than the wages of a water gate keeper who also patrols the *tali ayers.* Maintenance was carried out by the raiats themselves and the system worked fairly well, though *tali ayer* clearing left something to be desired.

The area under cultivation at Bukit Gantang amounts to some 2,400 acres and this is served by a catchment of some 26 square miles, consisting of small streams coming down from the main range and foothills.

Two more dams were constructed in 1936. The Kampong Pauh dam, completed in 1935 cost $6,000 and the cost of the works undertaken in 1936 will be $20,000, making a total expenditure in the area of $26,000 or approximately $11 per acre.

Controlled Drainage Scheme, Panchang Bedina Padi Area.—The controlled drainage works constructed during the years 1932-1936 at a cost of $250,000 comprise:

12½ miles of main drain;
41½ ,, subsidiary drain;
4 main outlet control gates
20 subsidiary control gates;

for an area of 17,000 acres.

Digitized by Google

The total area felled and cleared up till the end of 1936 was approximately 14,000 acres, of which about 12,000 were planted.

During the year, the total length of batas constructed by the cultivators increased from 30 miles to about 100 miles. This has greatly assisted in the successful operation of the system, and on the whole the cultivators are well satisfied with the control of the water.

In 1935 a dam in the Sungei Beranang, a syphon and drops were constructed and in 1936 the *tali ayers* were completed. Unfortunately, owing to flood damage these were not completed in time for the 1936 season and no padi was planted.

To lessen the effects of flooding, the river was cleared and the brushwood dams removed and by the end of 1936, the river had lowered its bed nearly three feet. The *tali ayers* have been repaired and water is being supplied to the sawahs for the 1937 season.

In 1936 a dam was constructed on the Sungei Jendaram below the road bridge to irrigate the lower area of 273 acres and was completed in December at a cost of $4,537. Of the lower area, 138 acres were planted in 1936.

At Ulu Langat, the padi area is situated on the left bank of the Langat River from the 15½ to the 17½ mile road and extends to some 325 acres. It has been irrigated by a *tali ayer* from a boulder dam at the 17¼ mile and the improvements carried out in 1936 consisted of the construction of an intake at the bed level of the river, a control gate and the extension and reconstruction of the *tali ayer*. At the end of the year the intake and the control gate had been completed. The pipes for the *tali ayer* have been laid leaving a further section of *tali ayer* to be constructed in 1937. Dollars three thousand and thirty have been spent out of a total estimate of $5,000.

Sungei Muar Valley.—Between Kuala Pilah and Kuala Jempol there are some 50 brushwood dams of varying size all contributing to the deterioration of the river and causing flooding in the valley during periods of stormy weather.

A permanent dam commenced in 1935 has been constructed at a point about 1½ miles downstream of Kuala Pilah town. It is fitted with radial gates designed at headquarters and of local manufacture and is the first of its type in Negri Sembilan.

Digitized by Google

The eight gates, ten feet span by six feet deep, are operated by overhead gearing from a footbridge and can be raised clear of all floods, thus affording the maximum waterway.

When the scheme is in full operation and all the brushwood dams have been removed, the river will clear its silt and provision has been made for a lower bed level in the design of the weir.

During the last padi season, parts of the valley were irrigated from the newly constructed dam and *tali ayer*.

Sri Menanti.—The Sri Menanti scheme extending to about 300 acres is situated a few miles from Kuala Pilah in one of the prettiest valleys in Negri Sembilan.

In 1935 the *tali ayers* were enlarged and regraded and syphons, flumes and notch falls provided to permit of effective distribution of the limited amount of water available. A considerable extent of earthwork carried out by the raiats working in co-operation completed the scheme which is now giving very great satisfaction.

The area is perhaps the most settled of all the small areas in Negri Sembilan; a supervisor looks after the scheme, his duties being to see that the area is efficiently supplied with water and that maintenance is reasonably carried out. He is required to report any damage by flood or other cause to permanent works in the area. This system operates with some degree of success and it is hoped to extend it to other areas.

In the recently completed scheme at Labu where 560 acres are irrigated by a main canal 5½ miles long with five branch lines, very satisfactory results were attained. A number of minor improvements found to be necessary were carried out. No less than 14 brushwood dams have been removed from the river channel and this improvement to the drainage must reflect very greatly on the harvest.

The scheme carried out in the Kampong Daching area, commenced in 1935 and completed in 1936, did not come fully into commission. It was expected that if Government constructed the dam, the necessary controls and the more difficult portions of earthwork for the *tali ayer*, the raiats would carry out the simpler work. Unfortunately this did not prove to be so and by the end of 1936, out of a total length of 20,000 feet of *tali ayer* required, only 3,500 feet had been completed.

Digitized by Google

Ampang Jeram.—During 1935, a thorough investigation disclosed the possibility of extending very considerably the area commanded by the dam and in 1936 the necessary work was put in hand.

As a major part of the extension area lies on the right bank of the Muar River, it was necessary to carry the water supply across the river. A syphon, 18 inches diameter and 327 feet long, with inlet and outlet works above maximum flood level, was constructed at a point about 10,000 feet downstream from the dam. In addition to the syphon, ten notch falls were constructed along the line of the *tali ayer* to reduce the gradient and so prevent damage being done by erosion.

Two emergency spillways have been provided to discharge surplus water which during storms will find its way into the *tali ayer* from the hillside. When fully completed, this scheme will embrace 630 acres; four brushwood dams will be removed from the river with a consequent improvement in the drainage.

A concrete dam, 20 feet wide, fitted with a radial gate has been constructed together with the necessary offtake gate to control supply to the *tali ayer* at Kombok to irrigate 100 acres.

Paya Besar Padi Area.—Construction was started in 1935 on an additional scheme for irrigation of the area from the Sungei Pandan to supplement the uncertain water supply derived from rainfall. To date, a total sum of $45,000 has been expended on the development of this scheme.

The work executed in 1936 consisted of jungle clearing for, and the completion of, the excavation of the irrigation canal from the Sungei Pandan, construction of the intake, head gate, two control gates and a considerable length of bund and drain.

Construction work was carried out in difficult and unpleasant conditions owing to the continued rainfall throughout the greater part of the year when all the low-lying jungle land was under water.

Colonisation of the area has, unfortunately, not kept pace with the construction and the figures are very disappointing. By the end of 1934, only 380 acres had been planted out of the 1,170 acres at present served by the irrigation scheme. At the end of 1935, the planted area had increased to 457 acres and this figure was not increased during 1936.

Digitized by Google

During the year, $3,937 has been spent on the layout and construction of raised paths in the new kampong area and in the improvement of access paths from the main road.

The Paya Bungor area adjoins the Kuantan-Benta road at mile 36. The paya is roughly Y-shaped, following the courses of the Sungei Bungor Kanan and Sungei Bungor Kiri which join together to form the Sungei Bungor. The irrigation scheme consists of two dams—one on each branch of the river—with spillway gates and *tali ayer* leading from each.

Work started in 1934 but, owing to various unfortunate circumstances, was not finished until 1936. The total cost was $4,556 for a plantable area of 200 acres—a cost of $22.78 per acre. The scheme is now operating very successfully and the harvest in 1936 was the highest ever obtained.

The Gali Tengah scheme was started in 1935 and completed in 1936 and replaces an inefficient irrigation system on the Anak Sungei Gali constructed by the raiats.

The scheme which has cost $7,152 has increased the plantable area from 195 acres to 370 acres giving a unit cost of $19.33 per acre. The area is situated in the fertile Gali valley to the east of the Kuala Lipis-Raub road about three miles from Raub.

The works consist of a permanent concrete dam and head gate and a *tali ayer* containing three "falls". Water was turned on in July, 1936, and the scheme has been working very successfully. Much new ground has been cleared for planting next season. The whole area was gazetted in 1936 as an Irrigation Area with the Drainage and Irrigation Engineer as officer in charge.

The present scheme at Durian Sebatang consists of a concrete weir on the falls known as Jeram Tedong in the Sungei Dong, a new intake and the reconstruction and extension of the *tali ayer*. The work was started in 1935 and completed in 1936. Water was turned on in June, 1936, and the operation of the scheme has been entirely successful.

The area served is 182 acres and much ground which has been lying waste for years is, this year, under padi. The cost of the scheme was $7,500 which represents a charge of $41.21 per acre. The area was gazetted in 1936 as an Irrigation Area with the Drainage and Irrigation Engineer as officer in charge.

Digitized by Google

BAGAN DATOH DELTA DRAINAGE AREA.

(*a*) *Data*—

Area of land alienated	46,181	acres
Area of reserves and State Lands	2,221	,,
Total area ...	48,402	,,
Total length of internal drains and paths maintained	152	miles
Total length of outlet drains maintained	9	,,
Total length of coast bund maintained	28	,,
Total number of water gates maintained	24	,,

(*b*) *Cost of maintenance.*—The system was maintained during the year 1936 in good working order at a total cost of $39,915, which represents 86.5 cents per acre of alienated land and 82.5 cents per acre on all land within the gazetted drainage area. Dollars forty-seven thousand four hundred and ninety was collected in Drainage Rate. The recent improvements to coast bunds round the area will, it is expected, result in a reduction of bund maintenance costs from 1938 onwards.

Owing to coastal erosion, it was decided in 1935 to retire the coast bund between Sungei Balai and Rungkup and in June construction of the new bund was started. A Malay labour force, recruited locally, cleared the one and a quarter chain wide bund reserve, stumping 24 feet of that width for the bund site. About 60 Malays were employed on this work at 50 cents per day but at the end of the year with copra prices rising this labour was difficult to get and the wages had to be increased to 60 cents per day.

Material for the bund was excavated from the mangrove swamp by a Dragline excavator working a 24-hour day by crews (half Chinese and half Malay) on four 6-hour shifts. The machine worked very well and by the end of the year had completed excavation for 20,812 feet of bund; only 4,579 feet remaining undone on 31st December, 1936.

Jendarata Canal.—A floating harrow has been constructed at a cost of $500 which has been set to work on Bernam River half of the canal. It floats up and down the canal with the tides, its iron teeth stirring up the silt deposits which the tide sweeps out to sea. During the year, the bed of the canal has been lowered from 6 to 12 inches by this machine, the operating costs amounting to $497.

Digitized by Google

Draining and Bunding: Selangor Coastal Areas.—The construction of the Sabak Bernam bund was commenced in 1933 and the expenditure to the end of 1936 was $150,733 out of a total estimated cost of $180,000. The scheme gives protection from inundation by the sea and improved drainage to an area of approximately 30,000 acres.

Nearly the whole of the area is planted in coconut, owned by small holders.

The Malay Agricultural Assistant, Sabak Bernam, has put forward the following observations and figures as regards increased yields of coconuts:

(*a*) Area adjacent to coastal bund—

Before construction of bund these coconuts were barren, they now yield about 50-100 nuts per two-month period.

(*b*) Area 30 to 40 chains from the bund—

Before construction of bund these coconuts yielded about 250 nuts per two-month period, they now yield about 350 nuts.

In connection with the scheme for the protection of the coastal area between Sungei Sekindi and Sungei Tengi, the kampong land has suffered severely from inundation by the sea. A coastal bund with tidal control gates is under construction from the end of the Sabak Bernam Peninsula to Sungei Tengi—a distance of 28 miles.

The work is estimated to cost $350,000 and a start was made in October, 1935, when a Dragline Excavator was started at Sungei Besar and by the end of December, 1936, had constructed 4⅔ miles of bund.

In conjunction with the construction of the bund, three permanent water gates at Sungei Burong, Sungei Panchang Bedina and Sungei Besar were completed in 1936. A fourth gate at Sungei Haji Dorani was started but the contractor made poor progress and the contract was determined at the end of the year.

Dollars twenty-eight thousand four hundred and sixty-six were spent in 1936 bringing the total expenditure up to $62,121.

Digitized by Google

At Jeram, work was started in 1935 on the construction of a coastal bund connecting with the Klang-Kuala Selangor road from the 17th to the 21st mile together with a tidal control gate. The work was originally given out to local kampong Malays but owing to the slow rate of progress a contract was let and the work was completed in 1936 at a total cost of $11,954.

The construction of a bund and drain at Rantau Panjang was carried out by a Ruston-Bucyrus Dragline Excavator and by the end of the year the bund and drain had been completed except for three portions of the bund where it crosses three large outlets.

The tidal control gate for the drainage of the area was completed in 1935.

The total cost to date is $25,472 out of a provision of $32,800.

The area bunded and drained is 1,800 acres occupied by small-holders whose lands have suffered severely in the past from inundation by sea water which has also affected the health of the community.

At Teluk Pulai a Dragline Excavator started work in July, 1936 and by the end of December had constructed 18,480 feet of bund. The tidal control gate was completed in 1936 and the expenditure to date is $15,643 out of a provision of $27,000. The area bunded and drained is about 1,350 acres and the conditions are identical with Rantau Panjang.

Dredging Sungei Raia.—A sum of $54,000 was entered in the 1936 Estimates and work started on 1st March when the $1\frac{1}{4}$ cubic yard Dipper Dredger commenced to cut the channel, 113 chains long, from the new kuala on the Kinta River situated some 10 chains below the Batu Gajah-Gopeng Road Bridge.

The 12″ Cutter Suction Dredger which had completed an overhaul on 1st April was moved up in rear of the dipper and took over the digging of the channel from chainage 103 to the head of the new channel at the Kinta Kellas Estate Road Bridge.

This dredger deposited through its discharge pipe line, the dredged sand to fill the portions of the old river bed and improve the general drainage and value of the adjacent land.

Digitized by Google

At the end of the year the Dipper Dredger had moved back to the Kinta River and the whole discharge of the river then flowed down the new cut. Trimming of the banks and berms was completed over 75 per cent. of the channel.

The Dipper Dredger dug 109,100 cubic yards of spoil at an average cost of 12.9 cents per cubic yard and the 12″ Suction Dredger 43,500 cubic yards at 15.6 cents per cubic yard average.

At the end of the year the Suction Dredger had moved through the Kinta Kellas Estate Road Bridge and was working in the reach immediately upstream where it will remain during 1937 to dredge the silt from the upper reaches.

Klang River.—The maximum recorded flood discharge in the Kuala Lumpur flood channel at Market Street Bridge was 11,350 cubic feet per second on 15th October, 1932. The highest discharge in 1936 was 5,068 cubic feet per second at a gauge height of 11.3 feet on 31st March, 1936.

The stone pitching of the low water channel banks through the entire length of the flood channel started in 1935 was completed this year. A sum of $4,900 was spent bringing the total cost up to $39,871.

The need for this stone pitching had been evident for some time as these banks where unprotected had been rapidly scoured.

The grass slopes and berms of the flood course have been kept close cut and any holes due to scour during floods filled up. Repairs to stone pitching and town drain outlets were carried out as required at a sum of $1,054.

CHAPTER XIII.

Justice and Police.

Constitution of the Courts.

The Courts of the Federated Malay States are constituted under the Courts Enactment (Cap. 2) and are as follows:

(*a*) The Supreme Court comprising the Court of Appeal and the Court of a Judge;

(*b*) Courts of a Magistrate of the First Class;

(*c*) Courts of a Magistrate of the Second Class;

(*d*) Courts of a Kathi and Courts of an Assistant Kathi;

(*e*) Courts of a Penghulu.

Digitized by Google

The Supreme Court is a Court of Record and generally, in original jurisdiction, has the same jurisdiction and authority as is exercised in England by the Chancery and King's Bench Divisions of the High Court of Justice. The establishment consists of a Chief Justice and three Judges, but the Chief Justice and Judges of the Supreme Court of the Colony and the Judge of the Supreme Court of Johore are ex-officio Judges of the Supreme Court of the Federated Malay States and vice versa. The Chief Justice and Judges are appointed by the High Commissioner, who may also appoint any fit and proper person to act temporarily as Chief Justice or as a Judge, and may terminate any such appointment.

Magistrates are appointed by the Resident by name or office. Appointments have always been made from members of the Malayan Civil and Malay Administrative Services, and all District Officers and some Assistant District Officers are Magistrates of the First Class ex officio. The powers of Magistrates are defined by the Courts Enactment, the Procedure Codes and other miscellaneous Enactments. Generally, every member of the Civil and Administrative Services referred to is required to pass an examination in law before performing the duties of a Magistrate.

The Courts of Kathis and Assistant Kathis deal with matters of Muhammadan religion and law and the powers of the presiding officer are regulated by the terms of his letter of appointment.

An appeal against the decision of a Kathi or Assistant Kathi lies to the State Council and not to any Court.

The Courts of Penghulus deal with petty civil suits between Asiatics and with such other matters as a penghulu is authorised to deal with by law or by the terms of his appointment. An appeal against the decision of a penghulu lies to the Court of a Magistrate of the First Class.

In addition to the above the Warden of Mines holds a Court constituted under the Mining Enactment (Cap. 147) for the decision of disputes arising in connection with mining matters and the Controller of Labour has a jurisdiction under the Labour Code (Cap. 154) in disputes as to wages where labourers of Chinese nationality are concerned. Appeals lie direct to the Supreme Court.

Digitized by Google

Police.

In each of the four States of Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang, the Police Contingent is in charge of a Chief Police Officer with the rank of Deputy Commissioner who, subject to the general direction of the Commissioner of Police, Federated Malay States, is responsible to the British Resident for the efficiency of his Contingent. A fifth Contingent exists in the Depôt at Kuala Lumpur under the Commandant, an officer also of the rank of Deputy Commissioner who is responsible to the Commissioner of Police for the enrolment and training of recruits and for the efficiency of the main reserve.

In addition there is, also in Kuala Lumpur, the headquarters staff made up of the staff of the Commissioner of Police, the Criminal Intelligence Branch which co-ordinates Criminal and Political information in the Federated Malay States and the Criminal Registry or Fingerprint Bureau which serves not only the Federated Malay States, but also the Straits Settlements and the Unfederated Malay States of Johore, Kedah, Trengganu and Kelantan, besides corresponding with India, Hong Kong, Netherlands Indies, Siam and Indo-China.

The Federated Malay States Police cadre provides for fifteen British officers for service on deputation in Unfederated Malay States and the Federated Malay States Railway Police.

The total approved strength of the Police Force was 3,969 on 31st December, 1936, comprised as follows:

95 British officers;

61 Malay and other Asiatic officers;

2,373 Malay rank and file;

1,216 Northern Indian subordinate Police officers and constables;

224 Detectives (of various nationalities).

In addition there is a Veterinary Police of 68 Malays and Indians which, for disciplinary purposes and reasons of economy, is housed in Police barracks and is paid from Police Votes, though under the direction of the Veterinary Department.

During the year 317 Malays were enrolled. Of the men recruited during this year fifty-five had an English education. The majority came from Negri Sembilan, Perak, Selangor and Malacca. There was no shortage of applicants. Fifty-three Northern Indians were enrolled. The physical standard of recruits of both nationalities was up to the average.

Digitized by Google

Offences of all kinds reported at police stations during the year totalled 95,363 compared with 96,796 in 1935. Of this total, 7,699 were reports of seizable offences, a figure which compares with 7,977 the previous year. At the close of the year 2,442 convictions had been recorded in respect of seizable offences.

Under the category of serious crime the offences of murder, gang-robbery and robbery were classified together. In 1936 offences under these headings totalled eighty-five. The number of murders increased from 48 to 49 and included the murder of an Australian trainer named Casson by disgruntled Boyanese syces. Gang-robberies decreased from 5 to 2 and robberies remained at 43, the same as for last year. There were 14 murders committed in the course of gang-robbery or robbery. There was no organised gang of robbers operating in the Federated Malay States during the year and for the first time in the history of the Police Force there was no report of gang-robbery in the State of Perak. There were five reports of counterfeiting coins, none of them serious.

The reports of house-breaking showed a slight decrease and totalled 1,166 compared with 1,197 the previous year whilst thefts decreased from 4,061 in 1935 to 3,930 in 1936. The total thefts included 899 reports of thefts of bicycles, a type of offence that caused the Police considerable trouble.

Non-seizable offences totalled 87,664 compared with 88,819 in 1935. The Police prosecuted in 63,933 of these cases. There was no public gaming on a large scale during the year.

Twenty-six firearms were recovered by the Police during the year 1936. Of these three were identified as having been lost or stolen.

The suppression of brothels and of trading in women is undertaken by the Police. In all there were 41 prosecutions instituted in pursuance of this duty; the traffic was well in check.

The issue and renewal of passports was performed by the Police. Six hundred and fifty-four new passports were issued during the year, 386 were renewed, 316 endorsements were made and 181 *visas* granted.

During the year inquiry by means of fingerprint slips was made at the Criminal Registry regarding 23,220 persons charged with offences and identity was established in 5,109 instances. There were 10,675 new records filed whilst 5,996 were deleted

Digitized by Google

owing to death or because they had become valueless in consequence of the efflux of time. Since the start of the Registry in 1904 a total of 306,300 records have been filed, of which 74,932 have been deleted leaving 231,368.

There were 246 persons banished from the Federated Malay States during the year.

The control of traffic throughout the Federated Malay States and the registration of motor vehicles in Perak and Selangor involved the Police in great deal of work. To cope with registration the staff, equipment and accommodation were inadequate.

The Police tested 4,660 drivers and issued 1,843 certificates of competency. A total of 872 motor accidents were investigated; they involved 76 deaths and 579 injured persons.

Revenue collected by the Police Traffic and Registration Branches totalled $846,761.05.

Prisons.

Description.—Of the six prisons in the Federated Malay States, the one at Taiping is primarily a convict prison. The others at Batu Gajah, Kuala Lumpur, Seremban, Kuala Lipis and Kuantan are local prisons.

Prisoners are also detained for short periods in lock-up cells at certain police stations.

Vagrants are confined to special vagrant wards.

Population.—The total daily average population of all the prisons which, in 1935, was 994.84 decreased to 980.33 in 1936.

At the beginning of 1936 there were 1,074 prisoners remaining and 5,743 were admitted during the year. On the 31st December, 1936, there were 854 prisoners remaining in all the prisons after 5,953 discharges, 6 deaths and 4 executions.

Health.—The health of the prisoners was good.

Juvenile Offenders.—Juvenile offenders are sent to the Reformatory at Singapore as there is no special institution for their reception in the Federated Malay States. This Reformatory is administered by the Education Department.

There is no probation system.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XIV.

Legislation.

During 1936 fifty-three Federal Enactments were passed, of which the following are the more important:

No. 1.—The Revised Edition of the Laws (Operation) Enactment. This Enactment incorporates in the Revised Edition, prepared by Mr. W. S. Gibson, C.M.G., the amendments passed during the year 1935 to the various Enactments contained in the Revised Edition. This course was necessary in view of the fact that although the Revised Edition contains the law in force on the 31st December, 1934, it was not brought into operation till the 20th February, 1936. This Enactment is therefore formal and reproduces the exact effect of the laws already passed by the Federal and State Councils.

No. 5.—The Customs Enactment. This Enactment re-enacts the Customs Enactment, 1923, with a number of alterations found essential in practice and some amendments necessary to clarify the law. The definition of "value" differentiates between goods imported by post and goods imported otherwise than by post and in each case gives a simple working rule. Section 18 legalises the exemption of certain persons, e.g. the Consuls, from the payment of Customs duties, while section 21 permits the claim to pay duty at preferential rate on goods already removed from the post office provided notice in writing of such claim is given at or before the time of such removal. Sections 49 and 50 afford further safeguards against smuggling. Section 114 (ii) makes the presumption that any uncustomed goods are uncustomed to the knowledge of the defendant unless the contrary is proved. The powers of the Chief Secretary have been transferred to the High Commissioner.

No. 10.—The Chief Secretary (Devolution of Powers) Enactment. This Enactment is intended as a temporary expedient to make provision for the exercise of the statutory and other powers of the Chief Secretary to Government and the performance of his obligations during the period of transition between the abolition of the post of Chief Secretary to Government and the passing of specific legislation amending each of the numerous Enactments affected. These powers are exercised by the High Commissioner or some public officer nominated by him for that purpose. The Enactment also provides for the vesting of property previously held by the Chief Secretary to Government.

Digitized by Google

No. 14.—The Bankruptcy (Amendment) Enactment. This Enactment provides a simplified procedure in bankruptcy by which an administration order instead of an adjudication order may be made in the case of a wage-earner whose salary does not exceed $350 p.m. The debts, however, should not have been incurred in trading.

No. 17.—The Revised Edition of the Laws (Annual Supplements) Enactment. This Enactment provides statutory authority for the preparation of annual supplements to the laws of the Federated Malay States. These supplements will be cumulative and will contain the Enactments passed between 1st January, 1935, and the 31st December of the year preceding the year in which the Supplement is issued. This means that all the laws of the Federated Malay States will be contained in the Revised Edition (containing the enactments in force on 31st December, 1934) and the last annual supplement.

No. 18.—The Assignments Enactment. This brings the law of the Federated Malay States into line with the law of England and the Straits Settlements.

No. 21.—The Federated Malay States Railways Provident Fund Enactment. This Enactment provides for the creation of a Provident Fund applicable to future appointees to any of the posts contained in the Schedule and to any of the present holders who are not on the pensionable establishment. The basis of the scheme is equal contribution by the contributor and by Government of seven and one half per centum of the depositor's salary until the depositor has completed fifteen years satisfactory service when the contributions become six and nine per centum respectively.

No. 24.—The Opium and Chandu (Amendment) Enactment. This Enactment gives effect to the Agreement signed at Bangkok on the 27th November, 1931, pursuant to the Conference on the suppression of opium-smoking convened under Article XII of the Geneva Opium Agreement and generally gives more effective control over opium-smoking.

No. 37.—The Rubber Regulation Enactment. This Enactment consolidates and amends the law relating to the regulation of the production, export and import of rubber. Section 5 makes the Controller of Rubber a corporate body and ensures continuity of office from one Controller to another. Section 11 controls the importation of low grade rubber into the Federated Malay States from the neighbouring countries. Section 16 (i) alters the law

Digitized by Google

by imposing a cess only on rubber grown in and exported from the Federated Malay States instead of upon rubber generally, while section 18 (iii) permits the owner to have in his possession rubber in the course of treatment in addition to the stocks permitted by section 18 (ii). Illegally planted rubber can be ordered to be destroyed under section 19 (iv) and sections 28 and 29 provide for the forfeiture of rubber seized whether the accused is convicted or not.

No. 40.—The Diseases of Animals Enactment. This Enactment follows the provisions relating to animals contained in the Quarantine and Prevention of Disease Enactment, 1903.

No. 41.—The Penal Code (Amendment) Enactment. This Enactment follows similar legislation in the Straits Settlements and gives effect to a decision of an International Convention that no distinction should be drawn between offences committed in respect of foreign and domestic currency. Section 7 repeals the provision which makes a breach of contract a criminal offence. This is a matter for the civil Courts.

No. 43.—The Post Office Savings Bank Enactment. This Enactment consolidates and amends the law relating to Savings Bank. Section 9 requires the prior approval of the Secretary of State for any alteration of the rate of interest payable to depositors, and prior notice in the *Gazette* of at least three months of any change of rate. Section 13 makes special provision when the revenue of the Savings Bank shall be insufficient to defray the interest due to depositors in any year. Section 15 confers power to settle disputes by arbitration. Section 16 exempts deposits from attachment but authorises the Director-General to retain in the account a sum sufficient to satisfy any judgment of Court.

No. 47.—The Theatres and Places of Public Amusement Enactment. This Enactment is comprehensive in that it aims to control all public amusements and theatrical performances including cinematograph exhibitions. A public amusement is defined as an entertainment in which members of the public take part while a theatrical performance is an entertainment in which the members of the public do not take part. Section 13 exempts horse-racing, athletic sports or games from the provisions of this Enactment.

No. 53.—The Tea Control Enactment. This Enactment provides a simplified form of control over the production of tea by restricting planting and prohibiting the export of tea seed.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XV.

Public Finance and Taxation.

Budget for 1936.—The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1936 provided for a revenue of $57,813,826 (excluding Railway Revenue) and an expenditure (excluding expenditure on Loan Accounts and Railway expenditure on Revenue Account) of $55,632,142.

Actual Revenue and Expenditure.—The actual revenue for the year was $68,090,902, while expenditure came to $52,702,228. There was thus a surplus of $15,388,674 against an estimated surplus of $2,181,684.

Revenue Analysed.—The excesses and shortages in revenue as compared with the estimate were:

	Excesses.	Shortages.
Customs	$ 7,844,823	—
Excise	—	$705,593
Forests	253,174	—
Lands and Mines	—	79,669
Licences and Internal Revenue	294,399	—
Fees of Court or Office, etc.	320,595	—
Municipal	112,230	—
Light, Water, Power, etc.	479,603	—
Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones	—	167,863
Timber and Minor Forest Products	468,033	—
Rents on Government Property	24,038	—
Interest	436,313	—
Miscellaneous	796,995	—
Land Sales	197,541	—
Sale of Property	6,000	—
Colonial Development Fund grants	—	3,543
Total	$11,233,744	$956,668

Nett excess $10,277,076.

The excesses and shortages in Customs, Excise, Lands and Mines, Licences and Internal Revenue, Municipal and Light, Water, Power, etc., revenue as compared with the estimate were:

		Excesses.	Shortages.
(*a*) Customs—			
Export Duty on	Tin	$5,910,254	
,,	Rubber	817,180	
Import Duty on	Tobacco	258,476	
,,	Spirits	55,548	
,,	Petroleum	220,110	
,,	Kerosene	23,677	
,,	Sugar	195,657	
,,	Oils	—	$ 94,644
,,	Textiles	351,409	
Other Items		107,156	
	Total	$7,939,467	$ 94,644

Nett excess $7,844,823.

Digitized by Google

	Excesses.	Shortages.
(*b*) Excise—		
Sale of Chandu	—	... $721,881
Other Items	$16,288	
Nett shortage $705,593.		
(*c*) Lands and Mines—		
Land Rents (Recurrent)	—	... $125,117
Other Items	$45,448	
Nett shortage $79,669.		
(*d*) Licences and Internal Revenue—		
Traction Engines and Motor Cars ...	$ 9,065	
Other Items	285,334	
Total excess ...	$294,399	
(*e*) Municipal—		
General Assessment	$ 23,363	
Other Items	88,867	
Total excess ...	$112,230	
(*f*) Light, Power, Water, etc.—		
Light	$379,486	
Water	90,761	
Slipway	9,356	
Total excess ...	$479,603	

The excess under Timber and Minor Forest Products is accounted for by the proceeds of the sale of the entire stock of sleepers in the hands of the Forest Department on 1st January, 1936, to the Railway Department.

The excess under Interest is accounted for by increase of investments due to improvement of financial position.

The excess under Miscellaneous is principally due to the following:

(*a*) Appreciation of investments on valuation at middle market prices ...	$391,201
(*b*) Gain on Exchange	173,724
(*c*) Transfer of unspent balance of 6 per cent. Straits Settlements Sterling Loan	128,961

The excess under Fees of Court, etc., is accounted for by general increases over all items of revenues, that under Forests mainly by increases in extraction of timber.

Digitized by Google

The shortage under Posts and Telegraphs is due mainly to a change of system in accounting for telephone subscriptions from a quarterly, half-yearly or yearly to a monthly basis, which resulted in a readjustment of telephone prepayments.

Expenditure Analysed.—The savings and excesses in expenditure as compared with the estimate were:

Head of expenditure.	Savings.	Excesses.
Charges on account of Public Debt ...	$ 66,303	
Pensions, Retired Allowances, Gratuities, etc.	652,354	
The High Commissioner	2,647	
The Federal Secretary	14,899	
The Rulers and Chiefs	23,468	
The Residents	4,764	
Malayan Civil Service and Malay Administrative Service	70,627	
Agriculture	27,034	
Audit	7,640	
Chinese	10,789	
Clerical Service	32,430	
Clerical Service (States)	— ...	$ 6.382
Colonial Development Fund	201	
Co-operative Societies	21,398	
Customs and Excise	94,922	
District and Land Offices, etc.	44,527	
Drainage and Irrigation Department ...	24,414	
Drainage and Irrigation—Annually Recurrent	36,528	
Drainage and Irrigation—Special Services	118,300	
Education	136,674	
Electrical	— ...	128,189
Estate Duty Office	— ...	7,881
Exchange	10,000	
Fisheries	— ...	14,401
Forests	45,068	
Game Warden	9,087	
Geological Survey	3,876	
Government Gardens and Plantations ...	5,879	
Indian Interpreters	4,236	
Labour	— ...	24,531
Legal Adviser	2,521	
Malayan Establishment Office	13,184	
Marine	20,605	
Medical and Health	171,515	
Military	125,318	
Mines	24,194	
Miscellaneous Services	— ...	434,414

Digitized by Google

Head of expenditure.	Savings.	Excesses.
Municipal	$223,035	
Museums	208	
Office of Registrar of Titles	49	
Office of the Public Trustee	— ...	$ 34
Police	57,002	
Posts and Telegraphs	134,390	
Printing	16,854	
Prisons	67,468	
Public Works Department	69,475	
Public Works—Annually Recurrent	76,257	
Public Works—Special Services	972,163	
Purchase of Land	17,504	
Railways	— ...	18,559
Surveys	87,648	
Town Planning	2,349	
Transport	— ...	2,866
Transport Licensing Board	— ...	10,289
Treasury	4,334	
Vehicles Department	14,260	
Veterinary	9,062	
Total ...	$3,577,460 ...	$647,546

Nett savings $2,929,914.

EXCESSES.

(*a*) *Clerical Service (States).*—This is due to replacement of General Clerical Service Clerks by State Service Clerks. The total Clerical Service shows a saving of $26,048.

(*b*) *Electrical.*—The excess is explained by the continued increased activities of the Department necessitating increased provision for maintenance in the State of Selangor.

(*c*) *Estate Duty Office.*—The excess is principally due to the provision made during the year for the post of the Collector which was provided for under Civil Service.

(*d*) *Fisheries.*—The excess is explained by the contribution of $15,000 made towards the cost of experiment in brine freezing.

(*e*) *Labour.*—The excess is due to the increased share of cost of repatriation of decrepit and unemployed Indian Immigrants.

Digitized by Google

(*f*) *Public Trustee.*—The excess is explained by increases to the votes due to increased activities.

(*g*) *Railways.*—The excess is caused by provision made during the year for Capital Expenditure.

(*h*) *Transport.*—The excess is accounted for by more movements of the officers than was anticipated.

(*i*) *Transport Licensing Board.*—This excess is caused by provision for the creation of this new department during the year.

(*j*) *Miscellaneous Services.*—The provision of the following large items during the year caused the excess on this vote:

1. Grant to H.H. the Sultan of Selangor	$ 66,993
2. Write off of debt due from Tungku Musa Eddin	98,863
3. Expenses in connection with H.H. the Sultan of Selangor's visit to England	38,619
4. Balance contribution towards the Federal and Selangor Shares of the M.E.O. expenditure in respect of 1934	148,550
5. Publication of Vol. III of the Birds of Malay Peninsula	10,475
6. Payment of interest on Rubber Fund for 1934 and 1935	12,780
7. Compensations	6,500
8. Cost of compilation and printing of the revised edition of the F.M.S. Laws	6,739
9. Supplements to Decrepit Ward Fund	11,666
10. Supplements to Tai Wah Fund ...	7,735
11. Supplements to Tung Shin I Yuen Fund	4,490
12. Supplements to Conservancy Fees...	2,092

Digitized by Google

SAVINGS.

(*a*) *Pensions, Retired Allowances, Gratuities, etc.*—The following large items accounted for the savings:

Gratuities (over-estimate)	$368,000
Superannuations, etc. (unpaid in 1936) ...	284,000

(*b*) *Drainage and Irrigation, Special Services.*—Schemes modified and abandoned accounted for about $58,000, while the balance has been or will be re-voted in 1937 as the result of slow progress.

	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges, Annually Recurrent.
(*c*) Medical and Health ...	$ 56,000	$105,000
Military	128,000	—
Posts and Telegraphs ...	100,000	30,000
Surveys	60,000	27,000
Education	70,000	66,000
Customs and Excise ...	66,000	28,000

The savings on Personal Emoluments are generally due to filling of senior posts by junior personnel and to vacancies unfilled.

The savings on Other Charges, Annually Recurrent, are also general, the large items being:

(i) $31,000 on Diets under Medical and Health.

(ii) $30,000 on Maintenance of Lines under P. and T.

(iii) $18,000 on Field Allowances under Surveys.

(iv) $40,000 on Grants-in-Aid under Education.

(v) $13,000 on working expenses of Chandu shops under Customs.

(*d*) *Municipal.*—The savings totalled to $223,035 and accounted for principally by the following:

Personal Emoluments	$ 35,000	
Other Charges, Annually Recurrent	70,000	(Anti-Malarial Work $31,000 and Street Lighting $32,000)
Other Charges, Special Expenditure	100,000	(New Market, K.L., $85,000 and San Peng Road $12,000)

Digitized by Google

(*e*) *Public Works, Extraordinary.*—Practically the whole amount has been or will be re-voted in 1937. Deferment of schemes, late delivery of supplies and shortage of staff are said to be the main contributory causes for failure to spend so large a proportion of the provision.

Public Debt.—The total amount of public debt on 31st December, 1936, was $65,285,715, being:

1931 4½ per cent. Federated Malay States Local Loan, 1959	$16,000,000
1935 3 per cent. Federated Malay States Sterling Loan, 1960-70	34,285,715
1936 3 per cent. Federated Malay States Local Loan, 1956-66	15,000,000

as against $94,471,429 on 31st December, 1935, made up of

1921 6 per cent. Straits Settlements Sterling Loan	$44,185,714
1931 4½ per cent. Federated Malay States Local Loan	16,000,000
1935 3 per cent. Federated Malay States Sterling Loan	34,285,715

The 6 per cent. Straits Settlements Sterling of $44,185,714 was redeemed in December, 1936, by means of the statutory and supplementary Sinking Funds created for the purpose and by raising the 3 per cent. Federated Malay States Local Loan of $15,000,000 in July, 1936, at par, to meet the deficiency in the Sinking Funds.

The sinking funds contributions in respect of the above three loans outstanding on 31st December, 1936, viz.: (*a*) 3 per cent. Federated Malay States Sterling Loan of £4,000,000 issued at par in June, 1935, (*b*) 4½ per cent. Federated Malay States Local Loan of $16,000,000 issued at 98 in May, 1931, and (*c*) 3 per cent. Federated Malay States Local Loan of $15,000,000 issued at par in July, 1936, amounted to $1,323,808 on 31st December, 1936, as follows:

3 per cent. Sterling Loan	$520,515
4½ per cent. Local Loan	511,086
3 per cent. Local Loan	—
Supplementary	292,207

Digitized by Google

Assets and Liabilities.—The following statement shows the assets and liabilities on the 31st December, 1936:

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1936.

LIABILITIES.		$ c.	ASSETS.		$ c.
Capital Account (4½ per cent. Federated Malay States Local Loan, 1959), Balance at credit thereof (*a*)		$3,636,702 49	Cash—		
Due to other Governments—			In Treasuries and Banks ...	$7,028,608.30	
India (Agency Account) ...	$186,906.09		In Agencies	117,661.06	
India (Current Account) ...	9,367.91		In Transit	362,940.07	
Ceylon (Agency Account) ...	60,111.46		Fixed Deposits	12,868.37	
Kedah (Current Account) ...	166.08		Joint Colonial Fund (Crown Agents)	32,271,428.57	39,793,506 37
Sarawak (Current Account)	2.00	256,553 54	Investments—Surplus Funds (at valuation)—		
Family Remittances ...		81 33	Sterling Securities	$12,772,132.36	
Sundry Outstanding Accounts		27,119 63	Dollar Securities	1,812,887.50	14,585,019 86
S.S. Government War Service Land Grant Scheme		5,632 03	Investments—Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund (at valuation)—		
Deposits—			Sterling Securities	$21,796,622.58	
Courts	$191,168.96		Perak River Hydro-Electric Power Coy. Ltd. Shares ...	7,285,714.29	29,082,336 87
Forests	224,933.39		Investments, Specific Funds (at valuation)—		
Lands	240,981.86		Police Fine and Reward Fund ...	$ 42,825.18	
Postal	221,132.14		Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	418,764.96	
Postal Account Stores, Colony	300,000.00		Philips' Agricultural Scholarship Fund	5,723.25	
,, ,, Kedah	70,000.00		Rembau Waris Fund	70,282.00	537,595 39
,, ,, Kelantan	5,000.00		Suspense—General		15,485 06
Planters Loans' Board	600,000.00		Suspense—Stores and Materials—		
Miscellaneous ...	1,112,570.45	2,965,786 80	Post Office	$ 607,549.72	
Selangor River Protection Reserve Account		29,115 69	P.W.D.	220,139.23	
Sungei Buloh Coupons Reserve Account		1,500 00	Electrical	557,461.54	
Sundry Funds—			Marine Slipway	12,107.44	
Police Fine and Reward Fund...	$ 48,008.40		Minor Forest Products	9,998.94	
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	439,974.08		Punjabi Regiment	110,972.00	1,518,228 87
Rubber Experimental Research & Propaganda Reserve Fund ...	2,009,978.82		Advances—		
Philips' Agricultural Scholarship Fund ...	5,824.31		Due by other Governments ...	$ 90,978.46	
Rembau Waris Fund	97,401.78		Due by Railways	110,390.85	
Miscellaneous ...	48,454.49	2,649,641 88	Central Health Board	113,676.43	
Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund		29,082,336 87	Bentong Tailings Retention Scheme	189,534.40	
Surplus		76,159,818 72	Others	332,051.94	836,632 08
		114,814,288 98	Imprests		82,357 63
			Loans—		
			Siamese Government (*b*) ...	$ 24,794,674.93	
			Kelantan ,, ...	300,000.00	
			Planters	1,201,726.96	
			War Service Land Grant Scheme	1,081,923.56	
			Agricultural	8,628.05	
			Buildings	111,255.79	
			Miscellaneous...	864,917.56	28,363,126 85
					114,814,288 98

(*a*) The F.M.S. 4½ per cent. Local Loan, 1959, appears on the credit side of the Capital Account (*vide* Appendix C). The expenses of the issue and expenditure on works authorised to be carried out appear on the debit side of the same account, the loan being repayable by Sinking Fund, the instalments of which are provided out of revenue.

(*b*) The repayment of the loan of $39,685,714.30 by 26 yearly instalments commenced on 1st January, 1924.

NOTE:

(i) The F.M.S. 3 per cent. Sterling Loan, 1960-70 of £4,000,000 ($34,285,714.29) raised for the purpose of redeeming the 4½ per cent. Straits Settlements Sterling Loan, 1935-45, of £4,200,000 appears on the credit side of the Capital Account (*vide* Appendix B). The loan is repayable by Sinking Fund, the instalments of which are provided out of revenue.

(ii) The F.M.S. 3 per cent. Local Loan, 1956-66 of $15,000,000 raised to meet the deficiency in the Sinking Funds for the redemption of the Straits Settlements 6 per cent. Sterling Loan, on the optional date appears on the credit side of the Capital Account (*vide* Appendix D). The loan is repayable by Sinking Fund, the instalments of which are to be provided out of revenue.

Digitized by Google

Railways.—The result on the year's working, after allocation of $1,927,045 from revenue to the Renewals Fund and exclusive of the direct contribution of $1,000,000 to the fund from the general Government revenue, showed a surplus of $760,612, which also was credited to the Fund.

Loan to Siam.—The loan to the Siamese Government of £4,630,000 ($39,685,714), which is repayable by 26 annual instalments commencing on the 1st January, 1924, stood at $24,794,675 on 31st December, 1936, having been reduced by the payment of the thirteenth instalment due on 1st January, 1936.

Loan to Brunei.—The loan to Brunei which stood at $133,000 on 31st December, 1935, was fully repaid in January, 1936.

Loan to Kelantan.—The loan of $300,000 made to Kelantan in 1930 remained unsettled on 31st December, 1936.

Loans—Planters, War Service, etc.—The total amount of Planters and War Service loans outstanding on 31st December, 1936, was $2,283,650 against $2,831,450 on 31st December, 1935.

Other Loans.—Miscellaneous loans outstanding on 31st December, 1936, amounted to $984,801 compared with $930,650 on 31st December, 1935.

Surplus.—The surplus on 31st December, 1935, was $60,771,145. As the revenue for the year exceeded the expenditure by $15,388,674, the surplus was increased to $76,159,819 on the 31st December, 1936.

The gross liquid assets in cash and easily realisable investments, exclusive of investments ear-marked for specific purposes, amounted to $54,378,526. After deduction of cash liabilities, the net liquid surplus is $45,343,988 at the end of the year as compared with the corresponding figure of $27,722,135 at the end of 1935.

Buffer Pool Tin Scheme.—The nett amount of $4,982,444 due to the contributors to the Buffer Pool Tin Scheme and outstanding on 31st December, 1935, was distributed in January, 1936.

Rubber Fund.—This fund which was started on 1st June, 1934, on introduction of rubber regulation and stood at $1,487,616 on 31st December, 1935, was reduced to $1,141,767 on 30th September, 1936, by payment of the regulation and

Digitized by Google

other incidental expenses connected therewith. The balance of $1,141,767 was paid to the Controller of Rubber when the control and management of the Fund was taken over by him with effect from 1st October, 1936, in accordance with Enactment No. 37 of 1936.

Rubber Experimental Research and Propaganda Fund.—This fund which was created by an allocation of $2½ millions in 1930 and stood at $2,095,693 on 31st December, 1935, was reduced to $2,009,979 on 31st December, 1936. This balance of $2,009,979 together with commitments outstanding on 31st December, 1936, will be handed over to the Rubber Fund for future administration in accordance with a resolution of the Federal Council on 6th November, 1936.

Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund.—This fund was started with $10 millions provided out of revenue in 1925; with $9,828,503, representing contribution at 15 per cent. of annual revenue from Chandu Sales for the years 1926 to 1930, and with the accumulated interest from inception to 31st December, 1930, and for the year 1936 stood at valuation on 31st December, 1936, at $29,082,337.

The interest earned on this fund for the five years 1931 to 1935 was credited to revenue and contributions to the fund have been suspended since 1931.

Federated Malay States Sterling Loan Capital Account.—A statement of the 3 per cent. Sterling Loan Account is published as Appendix B to this report showing that the proceeds have been utilised for the redemption of 4½ per cent. Straits Settlements Sterling Loan.

Federated Malay States Local Loan Capital Accounts.—(*a*) A statement of the 4½ per cent. Local Loan Capital Account is published as Appendix C to this report. Of the total proceeds of $15,640,000, expenditure on Railway, Electrical and Public Works accounted for $12,003,298, leaving a balance of $3,636,702 still available to meet capital expenditure in 1937 and subsequent years.

(*b*) A statement of the 3 per cent. Local Loan Capital Account is published as Appendix D to this report showing that the proceeds have been utilised for the redemption of the 6 per cent. Straits Settlements Sterling Loan.

Digitized by Google

The following is a summary of the Customs tariff:

TABLE A.

IMPORT DUTIES.

Description of article.	Unit.	Full duty.	Preferential duty.
I.—Intoxicating liquors:		$ c.	$ c.
(*a*) Rectified spirit	Per proof gallon ...	14 00	
(*b*) Brandy and any other intoxicating liquor not hereinafter provided for	,, ...	14 00 ...	10 50
(*c*) Brandy in bottle and accepted by the Proper Officer of Customs as not exceeding 81 per cent. of proof spirit	Per gallon ...	10 50 ...	8 00
(*d*) Whisky, rum and gin ...	Per proof gallon ...	13 00	
(*e*) Whisky, rum and gin in bottle and accepted by the Proper Officer of Customs as not exceeding 81 per cent. of proof spirit	Per gallon ...	9 50	
(*f*) Toddy arrack, saki and samsu including medicated samsu	Per proof gallon ...	12 00	
(*g*) Bitters and liqueurs not exceeding 100 per cent. of proof spirit	Per gallon ...	13 00	
(*h*) Sparkling wines not exceeding 42 per cent. of proof spirit	,, ...	6 00 ...	5 00
(*i*) Still wines exceeding 26 per cent. but not exceeding 42 per cent. of proof spirit	,, ...	4 50 ...	3 90
(*j*) Still wines not exceeding 26 per cent. of proof spirit	,, ...	1 50 ...	90
(*k*) Ale, beer, stout, porter, cider and perry	,, ...	1 30 ...	1 20
II.—Tobacco:			
(*a*) Cigars and snuff	Per pound ...	1 60	
(*b*) Cigarettes	,, ...	1 10 ...	1 00
(*c*) Unmanufactured tobacco ...	,, ...	70	
(*d*) Manufactured tobacco excluding cigars, cigarettes and snuff			
(i) if imported for sale to the public in air-tight tins or containers	,, ...	1 10 ...	1 00
(ii) not otherwise provided for	,, ...	80	

Digitized by Google

Description of article.	Unit.	Full duty.	Preferential duty.
		$ c.	$ c.
III.—Petroleum :			
(*a*) Kerosene with a flashing point higher than 73°F but below 200°F	Per gallon ...	15	
(*b*) Petrol	,, ...	35	
IV.—(*a*) Sugar, including sucrose, saccharose, cane sugar, beet sugar, maple sugar, palm sugar, gula malacca, gula kabong, gula nipah, gula kachang, jaggery, sugar candy, sugar cane, molasses, treacle, golden syrup, maple syrup, dextrose, glucose, grape sugar, starch sugar, corn sugar, starch syrup, corn syrup, wheat syrup, wheat jelly, rice jaggery, laevulose, fructose, fruit sugar, invert sugar, honey lactose, milk sugar, maltose and malt sugar	Per pound ...	05 ...	03
(*b*) Sweets, chocolates, confectionery, and any other products containing more than sixty parts per centum by weight of any one or more of the sugars enumerated under IV (*a*)	,, ...	05 ...	03
(*c*) Syrups, cordials, fruit juices and other solutions containing more than forty parts per centum by weight of any one or more of the sugars enumerated under IV (*a*)	Per gallon ...	50 ...	30
Exemptions			
(i) Sweets, chocolates, and confectionery in manufacturers' unopened original tins, bottles, cartons or boxes containing not more than two pounds nett weight.			
(ii) Articles which are dutiable under any other paragraph of Table A.			
V —Cartridges other than such as are included in section 19 of the Explosives Enactment (Cap. 200)	Per 1,000 ...	1 00 ...	Free
VI.—Matches :			
Containers with—			
(i) not more than 10 matches	Per 100 containers ...	12	

Digitized by Google

Description of article.	Unit.	Full duty.	Preferential duty.
VI.—Matches—(*cont.*)		$ c.	$ c.
Containers with—			
(ii) more than 10 but not more than 20 matches	Per 100 containers ...	24	
(iii) more than 20 but not more than 50 matches	,, ...	60	
For every additional 25 matches or part of 25 matches over 50 in a container, a duty additional to the duty under (iii)	,, ...	30	
VII.—Edible oils and fats :			
(*a*) (i) Kachang and groundnut oil	Per pound ...	04 ...	01
(ii) Gingelly oil	,, ...	02 ...	Free
(*b*) Butter, tinned	,, ...	05 ...	Free
(*c*) ,, frozen	,, ...	05 ...	Free
(*d*) Magarine	,, ...	05 ...	Free
VIII.—Cement	Per ton ...	12 00 ...	6 00
IX.—Cement manufactures other than tiles	,, ...	2 00	
X.—Tiles :			
(i) Roofing	,, ...	12 00	
(ii) Flooring and wall ...	,, ...	12 00 ...	10 00
XI.—Cosmetics and perfumery ...	*Ad valorem* ...	25% ...	Free
XII.—Textiles and apparel :			
(*a*) Piece goods made of cotton, linen, artificial silk, and all mixtures made of cotton, linen, artificial silk, silk and, or, other materials ...	*Ad valorem* or per yard ...	20% or 5 cents per yard whichever is higher ...	10% or 2½ cents per yard whichever is higher
(*b*) Cotton, linen, jute, silk or artificial silk, felt, flannel, woollen and all textile goods made from plant fibres, whether finished goods or not, other than yarn, thread, gunnies and waste, except as provided in (*a*) above	*Ad valorem* ...	20% ...	10%
(*c*) Wearing apparel not otherwise provided for, including boots, bootees, shoes, overshoes, slippers and sandals of all descriptions and of whatever material finished or unfinished, other than articles specified in the next following item	,, ...	20% ...	10%

Digitized by Google

Description of article.	Unit.	Full duty.	Preferential duty.
		$ c.	$ c.
XII.—Textiles and apparel—(*cont.*)			
(*d*) Boots, bootees, shoes, overshoes, slippers and sandals of all descriptions made wholly or partly of rubber, balata or gutta percha (except where the outer part of the uppers, apart from stitchings, fastenings or ornaments, is made entirely of leather or leather and elastic)	Per pair ...	50 ...	10
(*e*) Rubber soles	,, ...	25 ...	05
XIII.—Tanned hides and skins, leather and imitation leather, leather and imitation leather manufactures other than fancy goods	*Ad valorem* ...	10% ...	Free
XIV.—Cycles and accessories:			
(*a*) Cycles—complete ...	Each	4 50 ...	1 50
Saddles	,, ...	30 ...	10
Frames—complete ...	,, ...	3 00 ...	1 00
Frames—parts of ...	Per piece ...	15 ...	05
Handlebars—with fittings and otherwise ...	Each	30 ...	10
Rims	,, ...	30 ...	10
Chains	,, ...	30 ...	10
Cycle pumps	Per dozen ...	30 ...	Free
(*b*) Cycle tyres (outer covers)	Per cover ...	15 ...	08
,, inner tubes ...	Per tube ...	06 ...	03
(*c*) Motor and motor-cycle tyres (outer covers) ...	*Ad valorem* ...	20% ...	Free
(*d*) Motor and motor-cycle inner tubes	,, ...	20% ...	,,
XV.—Musical instruments other than pianos. Wireless receiving and transmitting sets and parts thereof including gramophones, electrical gramophones or reproducers, phonographs, records, needles, valves and other parts or accessories ...	,, ...	10% ...	Free
XVI.—Ground-nuts	Per pound ...	00¾ ...	Free
XVII.—Milk (including cream), condensed, desiccated or preserved	For 100 lbs. nett weight ...	5 00 ...	1 00
XVIII.—Fruits, jams, marmalade, vegetables, fish, meats and soups in metal, glass, or earthenware containers ...	*Ad valorem* ...	15% ...	Free
XIX.—Printing paper	,, ...	10% ...	Free
XX.—Manufactured brass, bronze, and copperware	,, ...	15% ...	5%

Digitized by Google

Description of article.	Unit.	Full duty.	Preferential duty.
		$ c.	$ c.
XXI.—(*a*) Batteries and parts thereof for electric torches or hand-lamps	*Ad valorem* ...	20% ...	5%
(*b*) All other electric batteries and parts thereof	,, ...	15% ...	Free
XXII.—Paraffin wax and articles made thereof	,, ...	15% ...	5%
XXIII.—Fish maws and sharks' fins	,, ...	15% ...	5%
XXIV.—Umbrellas and lamp-shades covered with silk, artificial silk or cotton ...	,, ...	10% ...	5%
XXV.—Tea	Per pound ...	08 ...	06
XXVI.—Saccharine	,, ...	5 00	
XXVII.—Fireworks and crackers ...	,, ...	10	

TABLE B.

EXPORT DUTIES.

I.—AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

Description of article.	Duty.
Gambier	15 cents per pikul
Gutta-percha (cultivated) meaning gutta-percha produced from any of the trees mentioned in the Customs tariff which have been cultivated on alienated land to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Customs and Excise	2½ per cent. *ad valorem*
Rubber	1 per cent. *ad valorem* when price is under 20 cents per pound, to 3¼ per cent. when price is 35 cents or over

II.—FOREST PRODUCTS.

Description of article.	Duty.
Rembia ataps	10 per cent. *ad valorem*
Nipah ataps—	
(*a*) Bertindeh tulang	$1.50 per 1,000
(*b*) Bertumu tulang	$1.00 ,,
(*c*) Bertumu daun	.75 ,,
(*d*) Other kinds	10 per cent. of the wholesale prices in the centres of production
Getah rambong (India-rubber) ...	$5 per pikul
Formosa camphor	10 per cent. *ad valorem*
Kepong bark	10 ,, ,,

Digitized by Google

III.—MINERALS, METALS AND METALLIFEROUS ORES.

Description of article.	Duty.
Tin-ore—	
When the price of tin does not exceed $41 per pikul	$2.40 per pikul
When the price of tin exceeds $41 but does not exceed $42	$2.52 ,,
When the price of tin exceeds $42 but does not exceed $43	$2.64 ,,
and so on, the duty per pikul being increased by 12 cents per every dollar by which the price of tin exceeds $41.	
In the case of tin-ore exported otherwise than under such guarantees as the High Commissioner may require that it shall be smelted in the Straits Settlements, Australia or the United Kingdom, an additional duty of $30 per pikul.	
Tin, smelted or manufactured from tin-ore won in the Federated Malay States	On the same scale as that for tin-ore, together with an additional duty of one-third of the duty on tin-ore
Additional duty on all tin-ore exported	10 cents per pikul or part of a pikul
Tin slag and hard-head of tin ...	At the rate prescribed for tin-ore, unless the consignment is accompanied by a certificate of assay granted by the Government Geologist or approved by the Warden of Mines, in which case the duty shall be at the rate prescribed for tin smelted or manufactured on the amount of tin estimated to be contained in such consignment
Scheelite	$2 per pikul
Wolfram	$2 ,,
All other metals and metalliferous ores excluding gold	10 per cent. *ad valorem*
China-clay or kaolin	75 cents per ton
Potash-felspar or soda-felspar intended for use as a flux or a glaze	2½ per cent. *ad valorem*
China-stone	2½ ,, ,,

IV.—(*a*) MISCELLANEOUS.

(*Perak, Selangor and Negri Sembilan.*)

Description of article.	Duty.
Blachan	50 cents per pikul
Fish, dried and salted	10 per cent. *ad valorem*
Fish maws, fish refuse, ikan gelama, prawns (dried)	10 ,, ,,
Oysters, fresh	$5 per pikul
Oysters, dried, mother-of-pearl shell, beche-de-mer and sharks' fins ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem*
Horns, tanned skins, raw or dressed hides, bones and tallow	10 ,, ,,

Digitized by Google

IV.—(*b*) MISCELLANEOUS.

(*Pahang only.*)

Description of article.	Duty.
Fish dried—	
Class A (i) Sharks' fins	$1.50 per pikul
,, A (ii) Tenggiri, ikan merah, kachang, selor, bileh, bawal, talang ...	.75 ,,
,, B Selor kuning	.60 ,,
,, C Pelata, gelama, selor, puchat, lema	.50 ,,
,, D Kembong, Khe'kheh, selayang	.40 ,,
,, E Tamban, udang, blachan, ikan yu	.30 ,,
,, F Rambai, layor, pari, duri, bakau, budu and all other fish not mentioned above	.15 ,,
Oysters, dried, mother-of-pearl shell and beche-de-mer	10 per cent. *ad valorem*
Horns, tanned skins, raw or dressed hides, bones and tallow	10 ,, ,,

IV.—(*c*) MISCELLANEOUS.

Description of article.	Duty.
Elephants	20 per cent. *ad valorem*

EXCISE DUTIES.

Description of article.	Duty.		
Chinese samsu including medicated samsu	$9 per proof gallon		
Other intoxicating liquors	$11 ,, ,,		
Matches: containers in which there are:		A.	B.
(i) not more than 10 matches ...	Per 100 containers	9 cents	8 cents
(ii) more than 10 but not more than 20 matches	,, ,,	18 ,,	16 ,,
(iii) more than 20 but not more than 50 matches	,, ,,	45 ,,	40 ,,
For every additional 25 matches or part of 25 matches over 50 in a container: a duty additional to duty under (iii)		22½ ,,	20 ,,

The rates in column "A" apply where both the matches and the containers are made from imported timber.

The rates in column "B" apply where both the matches and the containers are made from local timber.

STAMP DUTIES.

Stamp duties are collected by means of adhesive stamps affixed, in accordance with a schedule to the Stamp Enactment, on certain specified documents, of which the more common are given below:

Agreement or contract.—25 cents.

Digitized by Google

Bill of exchange (except a cheque or bank note).—5 cents for every $100 of the amount or value of the money for which the bill or note is drawn or made.

Charge, agreement for a charge, bond, debenture, covenant, and bill of sale by way of security.—At rates graduated from 10 cents for an amount not exceeding $25 to $1 for every $500.

Cheque.—4 cents.

Conveyance, assignment, transfer or absolute bill of sale.—

(*a*) On sale of any property (except stock, shares and marketable securities).—At rates graduated from 50 cents where the consideration does not exceed $100 to $1.50 for every $250.

(*b*) Of any stock, shares or marketable securities.—Ten cents (or 30 cents in certain cases) for every $100 or part of $100 of the value thereof on date of the transfer.

Lease or agreement for lease of any land, house or other immovable property granted or made.—At rates varying according to rent, fine or premium payable and period.

Policy insurance:

Fire insurance.—25 cents per policy.

Life insurance.—10 cents for every $1,000.

Power or letter of attorney.—$3 for a general power.

Promissory note (except a bank note).—10 cents for every $100 or part thereof.

Receipt for any money or other property the amount or value of which exceeds twenty dollars.—4 cents.

Share certificate.—5 cents.

Poll Tax and Hut Tax.

There is no poll or hut tax.

CHAPTER XVI.

Miscellaneous.

Electrical Department.

The continued improvement in general industrial conditions during the year, especially in the tin mining industry, resulted in a larger demand for electrical energy than ever before.

The largest consumption of energy was in Perak, the richest tin-mining State in the country. In Selangor sales of energy could have been considerably increased if the Government generating plants had been of larger capacity and no restriction imposed on the supply for industrial purposes.

Digitized by Google

The total number of units generated in the Federated Malay States during the year was 446,794,999 as compared with 297,969,927 in 1935, or an increase of 49.9 per cent.

The above units for 1936 were generated by the following prime-movers:

Water wheels	237,698,717
Steam plant	163,421,466
Oil-driven	45,597,704
Gas engine	77,112
Total ...	446,794,999

Of this total the units generated by Government power stations and power stations termed "Public and General" are as follows:

State.	Government supplies.	Public and General supplies.	Total.
Perak	2,051,695	313,552,893	315,604,588
Selangor	79,038,789	32,505,010	111,543,799
Negri Sembilan ...	1,565,146	2,223,893	3,789,039
Pahang	424,535	15,433,038	15,857,573
Total ...	83,080,165	363,714,834	446,794,999

The energy consumed for industrial purposes only may be classified as follows:

State.	Tin mining.	Gold mining.	Coal mining.	Other industrial uses.
Perak	308,058,420	...	...	5,494,473
Selangor	25,262,873	...	7,182,394	
Negri Sembilan ...	...	...	...	2,223,893
Pahang	10,728,841	4,429,643	...	10,800
Total ...	344,050,134	4,429,643	7,182,394	7,729,166
Total 1935 ...	194,653,207	4,540,059	6,623,260	10,400

The generating stations of the Kuala Lumpur supply were fully loaded during the year and further applications for industrial supplies had to be refused. Similarly, owing to the inadequate capacity of the Klang power station, supply in this area had to be restricted during certain hours daily.

Digitized by Google

The total number of units generated by the combined Bungsar steam station and the Ulu Langat hydro-electric station was 77,282,446 as compared with 53,297,401 in 1935, and the maximum load observed was 13,080 kilowatts.

The number of consumers connected to the Kuala Lumpur supply at the end of the year was 7,735, an increase of 551 as compared with 1935, while the connected load was 26,529 kilowatts.

Progress in some of the other larger Government undertakings is indicated as follows:

Towns.	Units generated or purchased.	
	1935.	1936.
Ipoh	3,121,997 ...	3,492,664
Taiping	1,180,460 ...	1,914,180
Seremban	1,194,970 ...	1,191,741
Kuala Lipis ...	257,242 ...	259,506

Companies.

Companies established in the Federated Malay States.

During the year, 34 new companies were registered with a nominal capital of $9,125,156 as compared with 24 in 1935 with a nominal capital of $5,041,642 and 26 in 1934 with a nominal capital of $6,090,000.

The largest number of companies registered in any recent year was 56 (nominal capital $35,764,500) in 1926 and 54 (nominal capital $38,934,928) in 1920.

The main objects of the new companies were: Amusement and entertainment (2), banking and auction cheetus (2), brokers (1), birth benefit (1), charity (1), farming (1), general merchants (1), gold mining (1), investment trust (4), mining and planting (1), mining agency (1), mining (10), photography (1), rubber planting (4), rice merchants (1), rubber dealers (1) and tobacco (1).

Thirty-three companies were in voluntary liquidation and one in compulsory liquidation in the Federated Malay States. No winding-up order was made during the year.

There were 387 companies on the registers at the end of the year.

Digitized by Google

COMPANIES ESTABLISHED OUTSIDE THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

Twenty-three new companies were brought on to the Federated Malay States registers during the year as compared with 23 and 29 in 1935 and 1934 respectively.

The objects of these companies were briefly: Advertising (1), amusement and entertainment (1), contractors (1), chemical manufacturers (1), dealers in wines (1), fire insurance (1), general agency (2), general merchants (1), imports and exports (1), ice manufacturers (1), life assurance (2), motor engineering (2), mining (1), newspaper printing (1), rubber planting (5), tobacco distributors (1).

At the end of 1936, ten companies were known to be in voluntary liquidation; in the case of eight of these liquidations proceedings had commenced prior to 1936.

There were 694 companies on the registers at the end of the year.

At the close of the year, 67 insurance companies were on the registers; of these 44 are transacting fire insurance only, 13 life assurance only and 10 both fire and life assurance.

Thirteen banking companies were on the registers, two of which are local banks and seven were banks registered outside the Federated Malay States with places of business in the Federated Malay States. Four companies under this category were engaged in money-lending only, of these one was registered locally and three abroad.

COMPULSORY LIQUIDATION.

Two companies were still in the process of liquidation at the close of the year: one by a private liquidator and the other by the Assistant Official Assignee, Ipoh.

BANKRUPTCY.

During the year, 99 bankruptcy notices and 65 bankruptcy petitions were filed, and 46 receiving orders and 45 adjudication orders (against 49 persons) were made, as compared with 110 bankruptcy notices, 103 bankruptcy petitions, 88 receiving orders and 95 adjudication orders in 1935.

Digitized by Google

Of the persons adjudged bankrupt, 20 were Chinese, 21 Indians, 2 Ceylonese, 3 Malays and 3 Eurasians. By occupation 14 were traders, 3 miners, 1 landowner, 1 money-lender, 1 contractor, 1 amusement caterer, 1 goldsmith, 3 printers and stationers, 3 locomotive drivers, 2 railway guards, 2 commercial clerks, 2 bullock-cart drivers, 1 mechanic, 1 compositor, 1 cook, 1 mandor, 1 penghulu, 1 broker, 1 clerk and interpreter, 1 boiler-maker, 1 overseer, 1 fitter, 1 lorry driver, 1 police constable and 1 Government pensioner; the remaining two were married women.

Of the above only 11 can be described as trade bankruptcies: 1 in Perak as compared with 10 in 1935, 9 in Selangor as compared with 3 in 1935 and 1 in Negri Sembilan. The marked decrease in Perak is no doubt due to the improved conditions in trade generally in the State. The increase in Selangor may be attributed to the compulsory bankruptcy of certain moribund petty traders who for purposes of classification are described as traders.

The main Bankruptcy Office is in Kuala Lumpur and the Branch Office in Ipoh.

Nine compositions were accepted by creditors during the year. There were 27 discharges: 6 were granted absolute discharge, 13 subject to various periods of suspension and 8 subject to consent to judgment.

On 31st December there were 584 undischarged bankrupts.

There were two prosecutions against bankrupts during the year. In one case the bankrupt was convicted and fined $25 or 10 days simple imprisonment for an offence under section 102 (i) and in another the order of committal was suspended for 10 days, the offence being for contempt of Court under section 84 (ii).

The gross liabilities and assets as stated by the bankrupts were $575,938 and $281,189 respectively as compared with $1,696,336 and $1,022,029 in 1935. There were two failures with estimated liabilities of over $100,000 but under $150,000, 1 of over $50,000 but under $100,000 and 3 of over $25,000 but under $50,000.

Digitized by Google

A new element entered into the work of the office by the introduction in August of Enactment 14 of 1936, Bankruptcy Amendment. One hundred and fifty-three Wage-earner's Administration Orders were made of which 118 were against Government employees. Although these cases seldom present the complexities common to bankruptcy in general they do, however, involve a heavy increase in routine clerical work. The system, owing to its expedition and relative lack of formality, appeals even to persons on the lowest wage earning scale. It is not yet possible to conjecture whether the figure for August to December represents an initial rush of applicants or can be expected to be maintained in the future.

The total revenue for the year was $22,224 and the total expenditure $26,281.

Department of the Public Trustee and Official Administrator.

The year under review was the fourteenth year of the working of the Department of the Public Trustee.

During the year the Public Trustee accepted 15 trusts in all valued at $111,238.56 while additional assets belonging to a trust accepted in 1935 valued at $567,551.90 were taken over. Sixteen trusts were wound up and at the end of the year 98 were still being administered.

The value of the property held in trust by the Public Trustee at the end of the year was estimated at $3,612,228.

The office of the Official Administrator, Federated Malay States, created in the year 1928 is combined with that of the Public Trustee. The number of estates taken up by the Official Administrator during 1936 was 31 valued at $234,224.58. Thirty-six estates were wound up and at the end of the year 68 were still being administered.

The total number of trusts and estates administered by the Public Trustee and Official Administrator as at 31st December, 1936, was 166 valued at over $4,590,000. The total fees collected by the combined offices during the year amounted to $40,182.50.

Digitized by Google

Expenditure.—The total expenditure for the calendar year was $117,489.

Progress.—The position at the end of the year was as follows:

Type of society.	No. of societies.	No. of members.	Paid-up share capital.	Reserve fund.	Total working capital.
			$	$	$
Rural Credit ...	58	1,631	68,183	14,872	85,269
Seasonal Credit ...	4	65	442	...	442
General Purposes (Malay)	34	4,290	...	...	11,062
Urban Thrift and Loan	34	16,449	3,620,000	275,852	3,956,852
Registered, but not working	2				
Indian Labourers ...	191	31,728	701,091	4,072	705,163
Indian Labourers' Unions	3	15*			
Registered, but not working	3				
Better Living ...	5	208			
General Purposes (Indian)... ...	2	79	4,069	...	4,711
Marketing	5	86	196	14	490
Fairs	5	153			
Stores	2	283	3,260	...	3,260
Urban Co-operative Union	1	6*			
Total ...	349	54,972†	4,397,241	294,810	4,767,249

Rural Credit Societies.—Economic conditions in rural areas reflected the higher prices of rubber and coconuts which ruled during the year. There was, however, little change in the price of padi with the result that padi planters, especially in Krian where the harvest was below expectations, shared but little in the general improvement. Although loans were granted more freely than in recent years, repayments exceeded loans granted by $4,566. Total paid-up share capital showed an increase of $4,807, thus stemming the fall which has been continuous since 1930. There was also an increase in membership after a continuous decline since 1929. The four new seasonal credit

* Societies. † Societies not included.

Digitized by Google

societies among padi planters in Krian created wide interest and seven more are expected to apply for registration after the next padi harvest.

General Purposes Societies (Malay).—The number of these societies increased from 25 to 34, the chief increase being in Pahang. The use of these societies for the banking of small savings has grown considerably. The years of depression have impressed on small-holders the difficulty of obtaining at one time the cash necessary to meet such a charge as quit-rent. These savings totalled $11,062 at the end of the year. In addition, these societies carried out a great variety of activities. They built and extended schools, erected teachers' quarters, developed goat-breeding and copra manufacture, organised an agricultural show, destroyed squirrels and rats, ran a sports meeting, took in vernacular newspapers and built village meeting sheds which are also used by medical, agricultural and veterinary officers who visit the villages to give advice. They are the most elementary form of co-operative association for joint action out of which other forms may be expected to evolve.

Marketing Societies.—Two more egg-marketing societies were registered during the year bringing the total up to five societies. A sixth is under formation. The societies sold 314,034 eggs for a gross return of $7,325, of which members received $5,841. The average price of $1.86 per hundred was thus obtained; the local kampong (village) price varied throughout the year between $1.40 and $2.20 per hundred averaging $1.73 per hundred eggs.

The Dusun Tua Co-operative Rubber Society was liquidated during the year. It had ceased to function a long time ago, but several of the leading members had been unwilling to give up hope that it would be resuscitated. With the sale of coupons rather than rubber it was realised that it was useless to put off liquidation. Share capital was returned in full and the local mosque benefited from the balance of the reserve fund.

Co-operative Shops.—In rural areas small semi-co-operative shops come and go. Most of them fail owing to inefficiency of management and the granting of too generous credit. Their turnover is usually very small. Some, however, have managed to keep going and even those that have failed have had an educative value. A co-operative store society has been registered in Seremban. The members are mostly Government officers and pensioners. It had not started work at the end of the year.

Digitized by Google

Thrift and Loan Societies.—At the end of the year there were 34 societies registered and working and two societies registered but not working, as compared with 32 registered and working and one registered but not working at the end of 1935. The membership of the societies was 16,449 with subscription capital of $3,620,000 and reserves of $275,852 compared with membership of 15,765, subscription capital of $3,204,700 and reserves of $253,737 last year end.

Loans were granted to the value of $1,452,100 and there were only $4,500 overdue on loan repayments. Repayments exceeded loans granted by $58,500.

The societies took $549,700 of the loan floated during the year by the Federated Malay States Government.

Indian Labourers' Societies.—Thirty-nine new societies were registered, and at the end of the year there were 194 (3 not working) societies with membership of 31,728, subscription capital of $701,091 and reserves of $4,072 as compared with 155 (3 not working) societies with membership of 23,090 and subscription capital of $483,623 and reserves of $3,166 at the end of 1935. The average savings per member in these societies came to $22.10. They invested $275,420 in the loan floated during the year by the Federated Malay States Government.

Rural Lecture Caravan.—The rural lecture caravan which is operated jointly by the Department of Agriculture, the Rubber Research Institute and the Co-operative Societies Department did seven tours in the Federated Malay States during the year. The estimated attendance was 83,300. Three new films designed to encourage the Malay raiat and the Indian labourer to make additional savings by keeping goats and cows and by maintaining vegetable gardens were issued during the year.

Lands.

The area in private occupation at the end of the year amounted to about 2,578,939 acres under agricultural titles and 209,810 acres under mining titles.

It is estimated that of the 27,540 square miles covered by the four States of the Federation, 15.8 per rent. is land in private occupation and 27.2 per cent. is reserved forest, while the balance of 57 per cent. is still State land, including therein land reserved for purposes other than forests.

Digitized by Google

Surveys.

The expenditure of this Department at $745,631 was slightly higher than for 1935. The demand for title surveys increased by 57 per cent. in Pahang and 37 per cent. in Perak while in both Selangor and Negri Sembilan there was a decrease of about 23 per cent.

The Trigonometrical Branch completed the primary and secondary triangulation of Brunei, but beyond the normal precise levelling programme no other field work was undertaken. The Topographical Branch completed the survey of an area of 422 square miles in Brunei and about 116 square miles on the Brunei-Sarawak boundary. This completes the present programme in Brunei.

Two sheets of the standard one inch to one mile topographical map of Malaya were completely revised. Revision of the 4″ to 1 mile topographical map of Singapore Island was well in hand. The 10″ to 1 mile map of Singapore Town is also being revised.

An agreement was made for the Topographical Branch to survey, for the Johore Government, the remaining sheets of the standard 1″ to 1 mile topographical map of Malaya covering that State. The programme extends over five years and work was commenced in October.

The Map Production Branch continued to produce the coupons required for rubber regulation for the whole of Malaya. Designs are changed each quarter and so far as is known no attempts at forgery have been made. Nearly seven million coupons were supplied making a total of 25 millions to date.

Routine meteorological observations were continued at the 17 main stations and at a large number of auxiliary stations. In accordance with the policy of establishing meteorological stations on aerodromes the station at Alor Star was moved to the aerodrome at Kepala Batas in August. Forecasts, covering a period of 12 hours, are issued twice daily and are posted in the aerodrome offices at Alor Star, Penang and Seletar (Singapore). In addition, forecasts are supplied on request to aeroplanes in flight. Arrangements were made for the establishment of a station at Labuan. This will be equipped in the same way as other Malayan stations and Pilot Balloon observations will also be made there. It is hoped that the station will be working next year.

Digitized by Google

Geology.

An increase in the staff of the Geological Survey Department was sanctioned, but the posts of two field geologists had not been filled at the end of the year. Leave arrangements reduced the number of geologists in the country to one, so there was no opportunity to undertake detailed field-work, except in certain mines. During the absence on leave of the Chemist, for part of the year, analyses of metals, minerals and oils that are usually done for the public and for Government departments by the Geological Survey were performed by the chemical staff of other departments. Many geological reports were made on mineral-deposits and on engineering problems. The central record of prospecting results is now frequently consulted by miners and by Government departments.

Planters Loans Board.

Agricultural Loans.—On 1st January, 1936, the Board had on its registers twenty-two loans aggregating $703,632.

One loan, $12,000, was transferred from urban loans during the course of the year, while nine properties repaid their loans in full to the extent of $243,155, eight others made partial repayments totalling $38,403, and balances not required by three estates, $9,900, were written back.

At the end of the year, the number of agricultural loans was thus reduced to fourteen totalling $424,173.

Urban Loans.—Urban loans, at the beginning of the year, totalled sixty-five amounting to $415,766. No new loans were made during the year. Repayment in full was made by twenty-three borrowers to the extent of $147,160 while thirty-two others made partial repayments totalling $36,488.

At the end of the year, the number of urban loans totalled forty-two aggregating $232,118.

War Service Loans.—Under the War Service Land Grant Scheme, at the beginning of the year, fifty-four ex-soldiers were indebted to the Board, in respect of the loans made to them, to the extent of $1,136,450.

No loans were repaid in full during the course of the year but partial repayments were made by forty-seven borrowers to the extent of $114,290 while one loan of $25,000 was written off.

Digitized by Google

At the end of the year, therefore, the number of borrowers continuing to benefit under the Scheme was fifty-three and the amount outstanding totalled $997,160 to which falls to be added $84,764 being advances to properties under the Board's administration giving a gross sum outstanding of $1,081,924.

Interest.—Interest earned during the year amounted to $123,064 of which $47,539 was in respect of agricultural loans, $23,334 in respect of urban loans and $52,191 in respect of War Service loans.

Interest collected totalled $162,617 while interest credited to Federal Revenue in respect of all monies outstanding was $148,697.

Profit and Loss.—The net profit earned by the Board during the year was $26,386.

Reserves.—The reserves of the Board at 31st December, 1936, stood at $837,886.

Capital.—The capital of the Board is $4,000,000 created by the Planters' Loans Fund Enactment (Cap. 131).

The Estate Duty Office.

The total of estate duty collected throughout the Federated Malay States in 1936 was $406,310 as against $288,286 in 1935 and $367,902 in 1934. The large increase in revenue over that of 1935 is mostly due to the more systematic examination and investigation to which estates are now subjected.

There were 593 affidavits lodged during 1936 and of this number 103 were valued at $1,000 or under and were therefore certified as exempt from payment of estate duty. There was only one estate in which duty was assessed at over $50,000 during 1936, but that being assessed in December the duty will be collected during 1937.

Valuation of immovable properties continued to be a difficult problem during the year, but it is hoped that a more satisfactory system will be evolved during 1937.

The amount of revenue assessed and calculated but unpaid on 31st December, 1936, was $552,965.80 of which $100,000 has been collected during January, 1937.

Several cases of attempted evasion of duty were discovered during the year, the *modus operandi* of which was the transfering of immovable properties registered in the name of the deceased, by means of powers of attorney null and void by the death of the donor.

Digitized by Google

There were 124 investigation papers registered during 1936 against 40 in 1935 and the activity in this direction is having effect. There were 32 cases in which the death of a partner in a partnership was reported to the Collector under section 43 of the Estate Duty Enactment. Prior to 1936 there have been no cases reported under this section.

Military.

After a tour of approximately 16 years in the country the 2nd Battalion, 20th Burma Rifles Regiment, stationed at Taiping, was replaced by the 1st Battalion, 2nd Punjab Regiment, on 16th February, 1936; and the latter thus renewed its acquaintance with Malaya which began in 1869 when the Battalion had its headquarters in Singapore.

The strength of the Battalion on the 31st December, 1936, was :

British officers	11
Indian officers	19
Indian other ranks	743

The expansion of the Malay Regiment towards its full strength proceeded rapidly during the year and the strength on the 31st December was 16 officers, 12 British Instructors and 560 Malay other ranks. A further enlistment is being made in April, 1937, which will bring the unit up to the authorised establishment of 734. The organisation is the same as in a British Battalion—3 Rifle Companies, 1 Support (M.G.) Company and H.Q. Wing.

In October, four Malay officers were granted High Commissioner's Commissions and were gazetted 2nd Lieutenants. These officers were formally presented with their swords by His Excellency on the occasion of the opening of the Federal Council at Kuala Lumpur on 4th November.

Three hundred and fifty men of the Battalion went under canvas in Selarang Park, Singapore, for a month on 13th January and benefited greatly from their experience and mixing with other troops.

Volunteering.

Satisfactory progress was made in the training of the Local Forces during 1936 and it is particularly gratifying to note that the increase in strength of the Malay States Volunteer Regiment reported last year has been more than maintained, the numbers having risen from 685 to 736. What is more important still is

Digitized by Google

that the increase of prosperity in the country has been reflected in a marked increase in the number of volunteers who have been able to fulfil all their obligations and thus become qualified as efficient.

The Malayan Volunteer Infantry have also made satisfactory progress. Almost every unit is now up to full strength, and many have waiting lists, a very desirable position since it enables commanders to select only men whose physique and character can meet the demands of military training.

The satisfactory standard of weapon training which was reached last year has been well maintained, and there was a marked increase in the numbers of men trained in the handling of automatic weapons.

Though it is not possible for volunteers in the short time at their disposal for training to make themselves as generally efficient as the regular soldier, it must be borne in mind that the Local Forces will only be called upon to fight under the conditions prevailing in Malaya. By keeping this fact in sight and concentrating only on those aspects of war which are applicable to this country it should be possible to train them to a very satisfactory standard of efficiency. Moreover it is possible to arm and equip them with weapons and material particularly suited to their role in war. These points are continually kept in mind, and existing arms and material are modified on new patterns evolved with a view to increased efficiency.

Malay Administrative Service.

In March, 1910, a scheme for the employment of Malays in the Public Service (Higher Subordinate Class) was introduced with the object of training boys of good family to fit them for high and responsible appointments in the Government service. The officers appointed under that scheme were styled Malay Assistants. Probationer Malay Assistants were selected from boys who had passed the 7th Standard at the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar. After selection they had to undergo a three-year course of study in the College and show proficiency in official correspondence, Treasury work and other prescribed subjects before being appointed as Malay Assistant, Grade III. On promotion to Grades II and I of the scheme Malay Assistants were eligible to serve as Settlement Officers and in other appointments of similar status. There was provision for a Special Class consisting of two Magisterial appointments, three appointments

Digitized by Google

of Assistant District Officer, one of Malay Assistant and one of Assistant Conservator of Forests. The salary scale of the various grades, including the Special Class, was the same as that of the General Clerical Service in force at the time. The scheme also held out hope to officers in the Special Class of promotion to higher appointments in the Civil Service, thus envisaging the possibility of further development should the work and ability of officers on the scheme justify further advancement.

The outbreak of the Great War, making it necessary for Government to free as many of its European officers as possible for military duty, resulted in a considerable increase in the numbers of Malay Assistants appointed to higher and more responsible posts, and in 1917 it was decided to introduce a new scheme which opened to the Malay Officers a well-paid administrative career. The passing of the Cadets' Law Examination was introduced into this scheme as a condition for promotion to the Special Class.

The 1917 scheme was in turn superseded in 1921 by another scheme which provided that boys educated in English schools other than the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar, should be eligible to compete for 50 per cent. of the annual number of vacancies for probationerships. There were at the time of the introduction of this revised scheme in 1921 twelve Malay Officers who were performing the duties of Civil Service appointments or of additional appointments open to Cadets. The number of Malay Officers at end of 1921 was 50 and there were in addition 23 Probationers.

The Malay Administrative Service Scheme in its present form dates from 1930. Appointments as Probationers in the Malay Administrative Service are open to Malays who have passed the Cambridge School Certificate examination and are over 18 and under 20 years of age. In the case of candidates who have taken an honours degree at Oxford or Cambridge the age limit may be waived and they may be appointed on a salary higher than the initial salary prescribed under the scheme. Vacancies are filled by the Federal Secretary on the recommendation of a Selection Board, a minimum of 50 per cent. of the posts being reserved for boys from the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar. Successful candidates undergo a course of study in Law and General Orders at the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar, for a period of one year, and thereafter remain on probation for

Digitized by Google

at least two years during which period they have to pass the examination in General Orders and Colonial Regulations set for Cadets of the Malayan Civil Service and also an oral examination on subjects connected with the actual work they have been doing. Thereupon they become Malay Officers, Class III, on a salary scale of $150-A10-$170 per mensem. After serving for three years in this Class and provided they have passed the examination in Law prescribed for Cadets of the Malayan Civil Service, Malay Officers are promoted to Class II on a salary scale of $200-A10-$300 per mensem. There are 22 appointments in Class II mainly consisting of Deputy Assistant District Officerships.

Malay Officers in Class II with not less than seven years' service become eligible for promotion to Class I. Promotion to Class I is not automatic or by seniority but depends on the occurrence of vacancies and is by selection according to merit and qualifications. There are 28 posts in this Class, the salary scale of which is $330-A15-$420 per mensem. Officers in Class I are called upon to function as Assistant District Officers, Second Magistrates and in other appointments of a similar status and responsibility, many of which were formerly in the cadre of the Malayan Civil Service.

The declared policy of Government is that Malay Officers of the Malay Administrative Service who by reason of their character, ability and industry have shown their fitness should be promoted to the Malayan Civil Service. Officers of Class I of the Malay Administrative Service who have served in that Class for at least three years are eligible for promotion to the Malayan Civil Service for service in the Federated Malay States only: such promotions being made by selection according to merit and depending upon vacancies in the authorised cadre. At the end of the year under review 19 Malay Officers had been promoted to the Malayan Civil Service.

General.

The year under review was overshadowed by the death of His Majesty King George V. The news of His Majesty's death created a deep sense of sorrow among all communities which evidenced their great love and devotion to His Majesty's person and to the Throne. The same sentiments of loyalty were again demonstrated at the accession of His Majesty King Edward VIII and in December when, on his abdication, he was succeeded by His Majesty King George VI.

Digitized by Google

His late Majesty King George V was graciously pleased to confer the following honours at the New Year:

Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George	Mr. Geoffrey Edmound Cator, British Resident, Perak
Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division)	Mr. Hallam Brookfield Egmont Hake
Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division)	Mrs. Mary Josephine Were, L.R.C.P., S.L., D.P.H., Lady Medical Officer, Infant Welfare Centre, Kuala Lumpur
The King's Police Medal (For Gallantry)	Lance-Corporal Mat Atin bin Malim Patani, Federated Malay States Police Force
Meritorious Service Medal of the Civil Division of the Order of the British Empire	Enche Mohamed Hashim bin Haji Talib, Head Malay Teacher, Sultan Idris Training College, Tanjong Malim
Medal of the Order of the British Empire (Military Division)	Sergeant Robert Paisley Whyte, Malay States Volunteer Regiment

and the following honours were conferred by His Majesty King Edward VIII on the occasion of his birthday:

Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George	Mr. David Henry Elias, General Manager, Federated Malay States Railways, and Member of the Federal Council
Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division)	Mr. George Preston Bradney, late Auditor, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States
Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Military Division)	Lieutenant Douglas Foster Grierson, Perak Battalion, Federated Malay States Volunteer Force
Meritorious Service Medal of the Order of the British Empire	Sub-Inspector Sher Mohamed, Federated Malay States Police Force

Digitized by Google

The Certificate of Honour was awarded to Wan Abdul Jalil bin Wan Hussain, J.P., in recognition of his loyal and valuable services to the Government of the Federated Malay States.

His Highness the Sultan of Selangor was received in audience by His Majesty King Edward VIII on 27th October, 1936, when His Majesty appointed him to be an Honorary Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order.

Sir Thomas Comyn-Platt who was sent here by the Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire to make enquiries regarding fauna preservation in Malaya submitted his report to the Society in July, 1936, and the report was published towards the end of December. Meanwhile it was decided that on grounds of public policy the organisation and control of the Game Department in the Federated Malay States, which hitherto was administered by Mr. Theodore Hubback in an honorary capacity, should be placed on a regular and permanent basis, and accordingly Captain A. T. A. Ritchie, O.B.E., M.C., who had for 13 years been head of the Game Department in Kenya Colony was selected by the Secretary of State for the appointment of Chief Game Warden. Captain Ritchie arrived on the 10th January, 1937, and took over the duties of his appointment.

The Deputation appointed by the Government of India to examine the conditions of Indian labourers in Malaya arrived in the country in December, 1936. The Right Honourable Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, P.C., C.H., who was the delegate appointed, with Mr. G. S. Bozman, I.C.S., as adviser, submitted his report in February, 1937.

Mr. S. W. Nelson of the Ministry of Transport who was appointed as Chairman of the Transport Board arrived in the country in July, 1936, and was engaged, in addition to his duties as Chairman of the Board, in assisting in the preparation of a draft Bill to consolidate and revise the existing law relating to the various forms of road transport. This Bill, entitled the Road Traffic Bill, was passed by the Federal Council on 29th June, 1937.

As already stated in the report for 1935 the post of Federal Secretary was substituted for that of Chief Secretary to Government on the 24th February, 1936. The further steps taken towards decentralisation during the year under review were the passing of the necessary legislation and the changes effected in the General Orders to provide for the execution of the statutory and administrative powers which were attached to

Digitized by Google

the office of Chief Secretary. The changes made during the year in the statutory powers were only as a temporary measure and consisted in the transference of the powers to the High Commissioner by the Chief Secretary (Devolution of Powers) Enactment which was passed in February, 1936. Meanwhile, two committees were appointed, one to advise on the distribution of the statutory powers vested in the Chief Secretary to Government by State Enactments, and the other to make similar recommendations in respect of Federal Enactments. The committees finished their labours towards the end of the year: their reports have since been approved by the Secretary of State, and the consequent legislation—entitled the Statute Law Revision (Chief Secretary's Powers) Enactment—was passed by the Federal Council on 29th June, 1937.

The financial position of the country during the year under review was sound and the recovery of 1935 has been more than maintained. Although this shows a satisfactory state of affairs, it should be stressed that this is mainly due to the restriction of output of the two most important industries of the country, and that all proposals for expenditure—especially recurrent expenditure—must continue to be most carefully scrutinized.

Mr. A. S. Small, C.M.G., M.C.S., Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements, administered the Government of the Straits Settlements and officiated as High Commissioner for the Malay States during the absence on leave of His Excellency Sir Thomas Shenton Whitelegge Thomas, G.C.M.G., O.B.E., from the 26th April to the 3rd September, 1936.

Mr. C. D. Ahearne, M.C.S., continued in the office of Federal Secretary from the date of the creation of the appointment in February, 1936, throughout the rest of the year.

H. FRASER,
Acting Federal Secretary, F.M.S.

Kuala Lumpur,
21st August, 1937.

Digitized by Google

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.—GENERAL RETURN OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, TRADE, AND POPULATION.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Trade.		Exports of Tin and Tin-ore (in Tons).	Duty on Tin.	Exports of Rubber (in Tons).	Duty on Rubber.	Land Revenue and Land Sales.	Railway Receipts.	Population.	Year.
			Imports.	Exports.								
	$	$	$	$		$		$	$	$		
1889	5,013,000	4,091,078	15,653,456	19,720,689	26,029	1,750,008	...	...	190,538	359,025	373,343	1889
1890	4,840,065	5,237,275	15,443,809	17,602,093	26,976	1,609,401	...	...	166,054	406,032	398,780	1890
1891	4,572,310	5,554,800	14,889,942	18,495,554	32,114	1,573,441	...	...	199,680	414,889	424,218§	1891
1892	5,347,189	5,883,407	19,161,159	22,662,359	33,477	2,097,274	...	...	300,680	537,111	449,656	1892
1893	6,413,134	6,797,538	21,896,117	27,373,760	39,912	2,602,380	...	...	347,600	723,934	475,093	1893
1894	7,511,809	7,162,396	24,499,615	32,703,147	47,676	3,238,000	...	...	457,262	986,617	500,531	1894
1895	8,481,007	7,582,553	22,653,271	31,622,805	49,592	3,379,813	...	...	468,239	1,294,390	525,969	1895
1896	8,434,083	8,598,147	21,148,895	28,395,855	48,541	3,126,974	...	...	511,237	1,344,994	551,407	1896
1897	8,296,687	8,795,313	25,000,682	31,148,340	44,095	2,716,263	...	...	636,054	1,294,139	576,844	1897
1898	9,364,467	11,110,042	27,116,446	35,241,003	41,167	3,210,699	...	...	636,927	1,394,720	602,282	1898
1899	13,486,410	11,499,478	33,765,073	54,895,139	38,960	6,181,542	...	...	639,899	1,722,475	627,720	1899
1900	15,609,807	12,728,930	38,402,581	60,361,045	43,111	7,050,382	...	...	712,898	2,254,742	653,157	1900
1901	17,541,507	17,273,158	39,524,603	63,107,177	47,475	6,968,183	...	...	626,114	2,377,040	678,595§	1901
1902	20,550,543	15,986,247	45,757,240	71,350,243	47,258	8,438,775	...	...	661,668	2,856,640	714,435	1902
1903	22,672,567	16,219,872	47,790,059	80,253,944	50,842	9,590,505	...	...	721,304	3,608,054	750,276	1903
1904	22,255,269	19,318,768	46,955,742	77,620,084	51,733	8,814,688	...	...	801,959	3,605,029	786,116	1904
1905	23,964,593	20,750,395	50,575,455	80,057,654	50,991	9,249,627	104	...	887,593	3,940,599	821,957	1905
1906	27,223,476	18,899,425	50,926,606	80,832,325	48,617	10,036,798	432	50,023	1,437,753	4,564,100	857,797	1906
1907	28,793,745	20,225,993	52,542,277	80,593,196	48,429	9,395,825	905	97,752	1,701,682	5,200,911	893,637	1907
1908	24,623,325	25,874,573	48,171,243	65,599,933	50,835	7,285,864	1,402	113,981	1,598,713	5,066,153	929,478	1908
1909	25,246,863	23,633,851	46,194,598	76,273,438	48,743	7,155,124	2,698	360,055	1,623,876	5,188,111	965,318	1909
1910	26,553,018	23,598,610	53,255,151	102,851,990	43,862	7,162,026	5,439	962,973	2,201,469	5,868,507	1,001,159	1910
1911	35,056,544	25,202,749	66,532,039	116,280,927	44,148	8,818,764	8,792	999,207	2,290,962	7,058,689	1,036,999§	1911

NOTE.—The total Revenue and the total Expenditure of Perak, Selangor and Negri Sembilan in 1875 were, respectively, $409,394 and $436,872. Figures for Pahang first appear in 1889. Federation dates from 1st July, 1896. § A census of the population was taken in 1891, 1901, 1911, 1921 and 1931. The population of Perak in 1879 was estimated at 81,084, and in 1889 at 194,801: that of Selangor in 1884 at 46,568 and in 1887 at 97,106. No figures for the other States are given prior to 1891.

Digitized by Google

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.—GENERAL RETURN OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, TRADE, AND POPULATION—(*cont.*).

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Trade.		Exports of Tin and Tin-ore (in Tons).	Duty on Tin.	Exports of Rubber. (in Tons).	Duty on Rubber.	Land Revenue and Land Sales.	Railway Receipts.	Population.	Year.
			Imports.	Exports.								
	$	$	$	$		$		$	$	$		
1912	42,647,687	30,990,487	76,122,679	154,974,195	48,420	10,850,121	15,638	1,576,224	2,875,414	8,421,016	1,109,017	1912
1913	44,332,711	47,287,581	86,409,157	148,669,498	50,126	10,729,888	23,720	1,395,923	2,790,451	9,469,446	1,117,625	1913
1914	37,309,943	55,010,037	72,140,005‖	122,962,929‖	49,042	7,046,869	31,012	1,334,245	2,562,436	9,133,911	1,136,500	1914
1915	40,774,984	42,838,631	60,015,935‖	161,838,118‖	46,766	7,235,086	56,782	2,401,914	2,597,836	9,187,512	1,172,336	1915
1916	51,121,856	31,966,581	69,621,113‖	219,943,686‖	43,870	7,903,785	62,813	3,851,815	3,068,766	11,616,696	1,208,177	1916
1917	65,553,186	40,878,746	73,261,725	271,485,389‖	39,833	9,331,288	80,022	4,914,781	3,308,464	13,189,829	1,244,018	1917
1918	68,448,862	45,286,910	74,750,746	223,066,282‖	37,370	13,141,841	78,389	2,254,556	3,657,454	13,106,413	1,279,859	1918
1919	72,135,075	70,676,961	118,854,965	279,135,105	36,934	9,944,177	106,453	4,883,123	3,533,829	14,957,460	1,315,700	1919
1920	72,277,146	100,433,471	170,522,123	288,715,698	34,934	12,203,531	101,330	4,443,100	4,004,095	17,316,533	1,300,000	1920
1921	54,449,568	114,386,546	102,914,877	134,955,549	34,489	6,153,360	94,510	164,169	3,568,490	16,198,426	1,298,292§	1921
1922	52,494,110	49,811,007	78,822,349	140,429,775	35,286	5,766,808	128,461	802,390	3,731,041	13,816,324	1,360,876	1922
1923	63,952,132	52,825,572	89,088,237	197,100,950	37,650	8,265,195	101,311	4,664,374	3,919,900	14,675,106	1,389,667	1923
1924	70,715,407	54,161,234	97,436,302	212,884,740	44,043	12,543,624	93,507	4,228,677	4,135,322	16,210,202	1,418,455	1924
1925	86,564,279	69,550,382	137,116,207	411,878,610	45,926	14,000,633	118,590	8,667,274	3,933,622†	18,743,352	1,447,243	1925
1926	102,541,400	87,663,747	173,887,724	445,600,203	45,947	15,583,799	160,213	11,192,715	5,389,042	21,640,545	1,476,032	1926
1927	105,404,458	93,263,915	176,161,194	339,925,603	52,180	17,704,014	127,593	8,575,863	6,656,724	23,055,515	1,504,823	1927
1928	95,655,560	109,004,240	191,473,471	278,523,482	61,935	16,037,720	174,490	3,712,752	6,639,808	22,347,560	1,533,612	1928
1929	81,799,584‡	84,660,975¶	201,393,405	349,012,595	67,042	15,420,646	261,352	4,313,743	6,694,598	23,331,618	1,562,401	1929
1930	65,560,870‡	82,470,192¶	168,020,418	213,652,044	62,065	9,121,971	249,675	1,084,440	6,224,381	19,272,903	1,722,941	1930
1931	52,348,659‡	62,163,328¶	106,201,211	125,177,183	51,250*	5,501,733	243,886	543,778	4,832,700	12,912,579	1,723,117§	1931
1932	43,817,151‡	53,740,139¶	71,133,301	87,851,281	27,091*	3,594,022	235,898	376,380	4,268,125	9,483,859	1,770,486	1932
1933	47,198,806‡	50,258,671¶	67,129,150	111,885,935	22,824*	4,886,683	248,356	577,406	3,989,363	9,036,776	1,597,770	1933
1934	58,926,323‡	47,211,228¶	84,731,059	202,725,341	36,385	8,886,234	256,516	2,160,157	5,141,756	11,284,147	1,631,728	1934
1935	62,364,264‡	51,119,943¶	87,102,149	186,770,827	40,748	9,700,616	194,478	2,247,497	5,593,334	11,871,097	1,777,421	1935
1936	68,090,902‡	52,702,228¶	96,796,795	246,945,491	64,719	13,410,254	182,873	2,817,180	5,804,247	13,086,733	1,847,951	1936

‖ Excluding bullion and specie. § *Vide* foot-note on page 151. † The figures for previous years included items now omitted owing to reclassification of revenue. ‡ Exclusive of Railway receipts. ¶ Exclusive of Railway expenditure. * The tonnage for the years 1931, 1932 and 1933 was based on 72% tin content of ore and not on the true assay value, viz., 75.5%.

Digitized by Google

Appendix B.

Dr. F.M.S. 3 PER CENT. STERLING LOAN CAPITAL ACCOUNT TO 31st DECEMBER, 1936. *Cr.*

	$ c.	$ c.		$ c.
To Redemption of 4½ per cent. S.S. Sterling Loan 1935-45—			By Loan Subscription—	
Total Loan raised	36,000,000 00		3 per cent. 1960-70 issued in June, 1935	34,285,714 29
Less Redemption from Revenue Account	1,714,285 71	34,285,714 29		
		34,285,714 29		34,285,714 29

Appendix C.

Dr. F.M.S. 4½ PER CENT. LOCAL LOAN CAPITAL ACCOUNT TO 31st DECEMBER, 1936. *Cr.*

	$ c.	$ c.		$ c.
To Loan Expenses—			By Loan Subscription—	
(*a*) Discount on Issue Price ...	320,000 00		4½ per cent. issued at 98 in May, 1931	16,000,000 00
(*b*) Commission and Charges ...	40,000 00	360,000 00		
To Loan Works...	...	12,003,297 51		
To Balance	...	3,636,702 49		
		16,000,000 00		16,000,000 00

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX D.

Dr. F.M.S. 3 PER CENT. LOCAL LOAN CAPITAL ACCOUNT TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1936. *Cr.*

	$ c.	$ c.		$ c.
To Loan Expenses—			By Loan Subscription—	
(*a*) Advertisement	600 20		3 per cent. 1956-66 issued in July, 1936	15,000,000 00
(*b*) Commission and Charges ...	37,500 00			
		38,100 20		
To Transfer to the Supplementary Sinking Funds for the Redemption of the Straits Settlements 6 per cent. Sterling Loan 1936-51	...	14,961,899 80		
		15,000,000 00		15,000,000 00

Digitized by Google

Appendix E.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST RELATING TO FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

	Cost. $ c.	Where obtainable.
Census Report, British Malaya, 1931	5 00 ...	Printing Department, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Handbook to British Malaya ...	1 00 ...	Malayan Information Agency, 57, Charing Cross, London.
The Oil Palm in Malaya ...	2 00 ...	Malayan Information Agency, 57, Charing Cross, London, and Department of Agriculture, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States.
An Outline of Malayan Agriculture	3 00 ...	Malayan Information Agency, 57, Charing Cross, London, and Department of Agriculture, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States.
Federated Malay States Law for Planters	1 60 ...	Printing Department, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Treaties and Engagements affecting the Malay States and Borneo	3 50 ...	Printing Department, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Geology of Malayan Ore Deposits	8 00 ...	Director, Geological Survey, Batu Gajah, Federated Malay States, and Messrs. Macmillan and Co., Ltd., London.
Geology of Malaya	8 00 ...	Director, Geological Survey, Batu Gajah, Federated Malay States, and Messrs. Macmillan and Co., Ltd., London.
Mining in Malaya	Free ...	Malayan Information Agency, 57, Charing Cross, London.

Digitized by Google

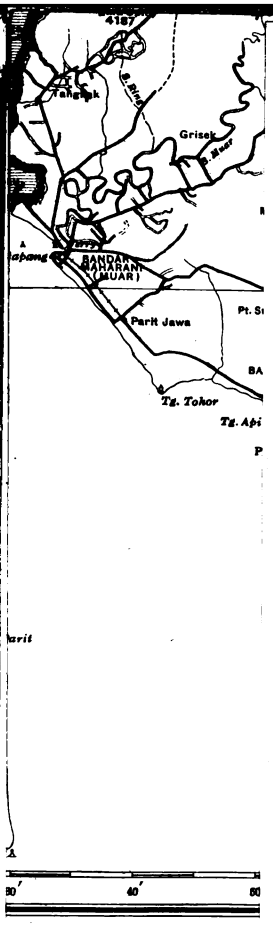
APPENDIX E—(*cont.*)

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST RELATING TO FEDERATED MALAY STATES—(*cont.*).

	Cost.	Where obtainable.
	$ c.	
Fisheries of British Malaya ...	5 00 ...	Printing Department, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Commercial Timber Trees of the Malay Peninsula	5 00 ...	Adviser on Forestry, Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.
Report on the Wild Life Commission (Three volumes) ...	12 00 ...	Government Printer, Singapore, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Malayan Year Book	1 50 ...	Government Printer, Singapore, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Rubber Statistics Handbook ...	1 50 ...	Government Printer, Singapore, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Schedule of Import, Export and Excise Duties, Malaya ...	50 ...	Government Printer, Singapore, and Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.
Mui Tsai in Hong Kong and Malaya, Report of Commission	2 50 ...	Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore.

Federated Malay States Government Press.

Digitized by Google



TING

Kuala
Malay
ly and

Malay

apore.
Walsh.

apore.
Walsh,

pore,
Walsh,

pore,
lsh,

td.,

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST.

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent r Street
or through any

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

(46285—48) Wt. 2861—3936 549 1/38 P. St. G. 377/7

S.O. Code No. 58–1822

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google


Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
3
G
A

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1821

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. VINCENT, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1714 and 1759 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 1s. 3d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the onies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937. [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
[illegible]: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1821

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. VINCENT, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1714 and 1759 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 1s. 3d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1936

CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, History and Language	2
II.	Government	3
III.	Population	4
IV.	Health	5
V.	Housing	6
VI.	Production	7
VII.	Commerce	11
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	12
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	13
X.	Communications and Transport	15
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	17
XII.	Public Works	18
XIII.	Justice, Police and Prisons	18
XIV.	Legislation	22
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	23
XVI.	Miscellaneous	26
	Appendix.—List of Publications	28
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, HISTORY AND LANGUAGE.

Geography.

The island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Of the Lesser Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, Bequia, Mustique, Mayreau, Canouan, and Union Island are administered from St. Vincent.

A map of the Colony is annexed.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Sotheran
12-14-37
15-205

History.

At the time of its discovery St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in undisputed possession of it until 1627, when this Island was included in a patent which was granted to the Earl of Carlisle by Charles I. In 1660 the English and French Sovereigns agreed to an act of neutrality regarding the possession of the Island, and in 1672 a commission was granted to Lord Willoughby constituting him Governor of St. Vincent together with some other West Indian Colonies.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities between the English and the French broke out and the Island was eventually taken in 1762 by the English under General Monckton. By the Treaty of Paris in the following year St. Vincent was ceded to Great Britain, and General Robert Melville was appointed Governor of the Island.

In 1773 an extensive portion of the Island was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of England as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the French landed on the Island and took possession of it, but by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of the West Indian Islands.

The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet from June to December. The temperature varies from 67° F. to 89° F. The coolest months are from December to April. The highest temperature during 1936 was recorded in September and the lowest in February.

The rainfall in Kingstown, the capital, registered at the Agricultural Experiment Station, 80 ft. above sea level, was 86·18 inches for the year. The heaviest fall for one day was 3·25 inches on 17th July.

Language.

The language of the Colony is English throughout.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government of St. Vincent originally consisted of a Governor, Council and Assembly. In 1856 an Executive Council was created. In 1867, the Constitution was found no longer suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony and the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were abrogated and a single Legislative Assembly was created, composed of 12 members, three *ex-officio*, three nominated by the Crown and six elected by the people.

Digitized by Google

This Constitution in turn was abrogated by an Act of the local Legislature by which the future modelling of the Constitution was left to the Crown. Until December, 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of official and unofficial members nominated and appointed by the Crown.

By an Order in Council dated March, 1924, as amended by Order in Council dated February, 1931, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of the Governor, three *ex-officio* members, one nominated official member, one nominated unofficial member and three elected members. The Island was divided into three electoral districts, each returning one elected member. It was provided that an election should take place every three years, and elections under this Constitution took place in 1925, 1928 and 1931.

The Council elected in 1931 was retained in office by Imperial Orders in Council for three further periods of one year beyond the normal term, and was finally dissolved on the 17th of December, 1936. By the St. Vincent (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1936, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted consisting of the Governor, three *ex-officio* members, three nominated members and five elected members. The Island was consequently divided into five electoral districts, each returning one elected member.

There is an Executive Council consisting of the Administrator and Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Treasurer as *ex-officio* members, and of such other persons as may be appointed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, or as the Governor in pursuance of Instructions from His Majesty may from time to time appoint by an Instrument under the Public Seal. The officer at present holding the post of Senior Medical Officer and three unofficial members have been appointed to the Executive Council. Every member who is not an *ex-officio* member vacates his seat at the end of six years. Every member is eligible for re-appointment.

The municipal affairs of the town of Kingstown are under the control of the Kingstown Board, which consists of four elected and four nominated members. The Board is elected every two years.

III.—POPULATION.

The latest census taken in the Colony of St. Vincent was on the 26th April, 1931, the population on that day being 47,961, an increase of 3,514 on the census of 1921. The distribution of race then recorded was as follows:—

Digitized by Google

Negroes	33,257
Coloured	11,292
White (including Europeans)	2,173
Other	1,239
	47,961

The following comparative table gives statistics for the years 1935 and 1936:—

	1935.	1936.
Estimated population	55,219	56,511
Births, excluding still births	2,211	2,212
Birth rate per 1,000	40·04	39·14
Still births	119	110
*Percentage of still births	5·11 (should read 5·38)	4·97
Death rate per 1,000	15·39	16·35
Deaths of children under one year (excluding still births)	246	264
Marriages per 1,000	6·98	6·16
Emigration	2,501	2,564
Immigration	2,737	2,568

IV.—HEALTH.

The year 1936 was again comparatively healthy. The death-rate was a little higher (from 15·3 per mille in 1935 to 16·3) and the birth-rate slightly lower (from 40·0 per mille to 39·1). Approximately half of the total deaths occurred in the age group under five years of age. There was no special outbreak of major disease but admissions to the hospitals and attendance at dispensaries continued to increase.

	1935.	1936.
Attendances at dispensaries	47,379	49,429
Colonial Hospital—		
Inpatients treated	1,456	1,518
Outpatient casualties	509	432
Other outpatient attendances	7,535	8,415
Casualty Hospitals (2)—		
Inpatients	193	187
Pauper, Lunatic and Leper Asylums	177	197
Tuberculosis Home	18	15
	57,267	60,193

* For 1935 percentage was calculated on the "total" births (Births including stillborn); for 1936 percentage has been calculated on live births only. On this basis percentage for 1935 should read 5·38 and not 5·11.

Digitized by Google

The following table indicates the principal causes of death during the years 1935 and 1936 and the percentage of those to the total deaths. It will be seen that these percentages in the case of certain diseases are considerably lower than in previous years.

Causes of death	*No. of deaths from each cause*		*Percentages of total deaths*	
	1935	1936	1935	1936
Diarrhoea and enteritis ...	69	37	8·11	4·00
Senility	94	96	11·06	10·38
Bronchitis	37	25	4·35	2·70
Ascariasis	87	81	10·24	8·77
Tuberculosis	45	27	5·29	2·92
Broncho-pneumonia ...	28	29	3·29	3·14
Congenital debility	81	51	9·53	5·52

V.—HOUSING.

The housing of the wage-earning population leaves much to be desired.

At present in country villages the houses are mostly of primitive form, being built of mud and wattle or of odd pieces of board with cane trash or shingle roofs, and the same is true of the housing of the labourers on many estates. In many cases estates rent house sites to their labourers, leaving the latter to erect their own dwellings. In 1930 the Sanitary Authority passed regulations governing the erection of new houses and the extension of existing houses.

Under these regulations, which are enforced by the Sanitary Department and apply to all parts of the Colony outside Kingstown, the minimum requirements for dwelling houses are:—a plot of land 75 feet by 50 feet, two rooms of 64 square feet each, a height of 8 feet from floor to plate, pillars 2 feet off the ground, ventilation openings equivalent to one-tenth of the floor space, and a latrine. Since the introduction of the Dwelling House regulations in 1930, 1,100 applications for permission to erect houses have been approved, and most of these houses have been completed. These figures are exclusive of the 100 peasants' cottages erected by Government with funds made available from the Colonial Development Fund.

Some improvement is taking place in the construction of the better class of house, especially in the case of dwellings recently

Digitized by Google

erected in and around Kingstown. Unfortunately, however, there has been little attempt at zoning or town planning in the past and the results of this deficiency must become increasingly apparent as time goes on.

The Kingstown Board at the end of 1936 was engaged in framing new Bye-laws applying to all buildings in Kingstown.

The majority of the houses or huts occupied by labourers and peasants are very poorly built, and they are in most cases allowed to fall into disrepair. The people have no skill in house-building. Few can afford to employ carpenters, and most of the carpenters available are of a very " rough " type.

Timber and boarding are difficult to obtain. The majority of peasants and labourers cannot afford to buy these materials. A certain amount of rough timber is obtained illegally from Government-owned mountain lands. Most plantation owners demand payment for timber taken from their lands and even for grass and cane trash required for roofing. Wooden packing cases are extensively used in house-building, and every store demands payment for these.

In few cases is any attempt made to repair the huts until in the wet season they become uninhabitable. The Unemployment and Relief Board distributed free during 1936, 576 feet of pitch pine scantling and 540 feet of galvanized iron to certain poor persons to assist them in the repair of their houses.

A number of the cottages erected by Government are not occupied as, owing to the poverty of the great majority of the people, they find great difficulty in paying the very small instalments required to purchase or, in the case of rented dwellings, the very small monthly rentals charged.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Minerals.

No minerals are found in the Colony.

Agriculture.

The following table shows the kind of crops grown, the estimated production, the estimated percentage grown respectively by the peasants and on plantations, the estimated percentages used locally and exported, and the estimated value of the products:—

Digitized by Google

Crop.	Estimated production.	Estimated percentage produced by		Estimated percentage.		Estimated value.
		Plantations.	Peasants.	Used Locally.	Exported.	
						£
1. Cotton—Sea Island. lb.	396,960	67	33	—	100	29,000
2. Cotton — Marie Galante. ,,	68,285	20	80	—	100	1,707
3. Cacao ... ... ,,	40,000	50	50	25	75	300
4. Arrowroot ... ,,	7,870,000	70	30	2	98	90,000
5. Cassava ... ,,	500,000	40	60	25	75	2,200
6. Sugar ... ... tons	1,500	100	—	67	33	11,000
7. Syrup ... ... gal.	355,000	95	5	5	95	9,000
8. Copra ... ... lb.	787,765	98	2	—	100	4,830
9. Maize ... ... ,,	60,000	25	75	67	33	200
10. Groundnuts ... ,,	5,000	10	90	88	12	25
11. Peas and beans ,,	150,000	65	35	75	25	900
12. Sweet potatoes ,,	3,000,000	20	80	75	25	6,000
13. Plantains ... stems	60,000	10	90	84	16	4,000
14. Tannias ... lb.	500,000	10	90	70	30	2,000
15. Yams ... ... ,,	132,800	10	90	60	40	415
16. Miscellaneous vegetables. ,,	110.000	10	90	75	25	496
17. Bananas ... stems	40,000	75	25	12	88	3,000
18. Tomatoes ... lb.	25,000	1	99	75	25	100
19. Oranges ... No.	60,000	45	55	50	50	65
20. Grapefruit ... ,,	8,000	40	60	80	20	12
21. Coconuts ... ,,	3,100,000	90	10	10	90	10,000
22. Limes ... ... ,,	1,000,000	20	80	50	50	300
23. Mace ... ... lb.	4,850	40	60	1	99	260
24. Nutmegs ... ,,	26,500	40	60	1	99	380
25. Ginger ... ... ,,	4,000	5	95	50	50	22

Notes.

1. Advances are made to peasant growers for their cotton by the Government Cotton Ginnery, which gins, bales and ships it for them. When sold 5 per cent. is deducted, the balance being distributed *pro rata* among them. Planters usually ship their own cotton.

4. All arrowroot for export is graded, packed and shipped by the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association who make cash advances to growers.

6. There is only one factory in the island where sugar is manufactured, but this plant, though relatively small, is among the most modern in the West Indies.

7. There are syrup factories of various capacities in the island. These factories are usually owned by planters, who also grind the sugar-cane of peasants on a share basis.

9. Owing to the present market conditions no corn was purchased by the Government Cotton Ginnery during 1936.

17. The area under bananas at the end of the year was approximately 1,000 acres. All Gros Michel bananas exported are handled by a Co-operative Association, and sold to the Canadian Banana Company under contract.

18. The Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau was closed down in July, 1935. The export of green limes is being continued by the Government Cotton Ginnery.

21. Not converted into copra.

Digitized by Google

Live-stock.

The following table shows the number of animals in the island as they appeared in the agricultural census of 1931. Included in the table are the estimated values of the various classes of live-stock, the number of beasts owned by plantations and peasants respectively, the numbers exported during 1936 and the value thereof.

Animals.	*Number.*	*Estimated percentage owned by*		*Computed value.*	*Exported in 1936.*	*Value of exports.*
		Plantations.	*Peasants.*			
				£		£
Swine ...	6,182	50	50	9,273	2,127	3.843
Cattle ...	6,070	40	60	24,280	34	137
Goats ...	2,813	15	85	844	2,110	808
Asses ...	2,365	15	85	1,184	81	110
Sheep ...	2,205	90	10	1,212	814	429
Horses ...	357	40	60	3,213	11	215
Mules ...	169	95	5	1,690	8	66

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony, but a considerable amount of fishing is practised and the fish caught is consumed locally. A small whaling station is situated in Bequia. In 1936, 278 gallons of whale oil valued at £25 and 776 lb. of turtle shells valued at £158 were exported. Practically all the fishing is done by persons of the peasant class.

Labour.

There is no recruiting of labour in the Colony. As a rule, labourers are employed by plantations on certain days, while on others they are employed or work on their own holdings if they possess or can rent these. They are usually paid by the task, but payment by the day is of fairly frequent occurrence.

The cultivation performed by persons of non-European descent (peasants) is similar to that performed on plantations. Most peasants work or have worked on plantations and consequently they use the ordinary plantation methods, and follow the lead of the plantations as to the crops they raise.

The number of peasants who cultivate land for themselves, either owning or renting land, is approximately 5,060. Of this number it is estimated that 4,818 cultivate areas from 1-10 acres, and 242 from 11-50 acres. Produce obtained from such areas is used for local consumption and export.

Digitized by Google

It is estimated that there are, including men and women, about 11,500 persons of the labourer and peasant class, in addition to some 400 receiving poor relief.

Of these, about 1,000 are in Kingstown, 3,200 on the Leeward coast, 6,600 on the Windward coast and 700 in the St. Vincent Grenadines.

About 300 persons are more or less regularly employed by the Government Departments, and about 1,000 on sugar manufacturing estates. Another 1,000 have regular employment in Kingstown and elsewhere in various capacities, agricultural and otherwise.

In all the agricultural industries other than sugar employment is only seasonal.

On the Windward coast some 3,000 persons are partially employed during the year. Approximately half of these have land, owned or rented, on which they grow food and other crops.

On the Leeward coast it is estimated that no more than 1,500 persons obtain partial employment during the year. Perhaps half of these own or rent portions of land on which they can grow food supplies and other crops; the rest make a living, when not working as labourers, by fishing and by obtaining casual employment in Kingstown and on the Windward coast.

In the Grenadines a considerable area is cultivated on the share system, mostly by females. There is a large amount of peasant cultivation and the chief occupation of the men is fishing or boat building. Although there may be some unemployment during part of the year, at other times labourers are difficult to obtain.

Apart from labourers who obtain employment on estates there are some 2,500 peasants who own holdings under 10 acres in size and some 500 who cultivate lands on the share system.

There is very little unemployment among skilled labourers.

It is estimated that there are 1,000 persons unemployable who exist by begging or by relying on their relations and friends. There are about 400 persons who receive grants from Poor Relief Funds of the Colony of whom only 10 are in the St. Vincent Grenadines.

Stock-raising.

There is one modern dairy farm in the Colony which possesses pure-bred Jersey and other cattle. A Government stud farm no longer exists, but several planters import pedigree and half-bred animals from the Government stock farm in Trinidad for breeding and for improving their ordinary stock.

Digitized by Google

Rum.

There is a modern rum distillery in the Colony which is operated in conjunction with the sugar factory at the Mount Bentinck Estate. In 1936, 28,266 proof gallons of rum, valued at £3,298 were distilled; of this 7,702 proof gallons, valued at £898 were exported, the balance being consumed locally.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total trade for the year amounted to £330,907 as against a total of £306,314 in 1935, an increase of £24,593.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were:—

	Imports.	Exports.		
Year		*Island Produce.*	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£
1932	149,289	95,693	1,606	97,299
1933	148,647	112,265	6,865	119,130
1934	163,035	129,833	5,396	135,229
1935	171,392	132,004	2,918	134,922
1936	174,861	152,980	3,066	156,046

Imports.

The following table shows the value of imports and countries of origin for the past five years:—

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	65,274	66,326	71,125	79,084	80,825
Canada	25,954	25,227	26,008	31,385	31,934
British West Indies ...	10,635	10,636	10,943	9,552	10,380
India	595	703	2,549	3,299	1,506
Newfoundland ...	3,738	3,944	9,084	4,767	4,631
Ceylon	299	308	286	266	350
Other British Colonies	6,714	7,058	6,481	6,583	9,983
United States of America	23,191	22,300	24,664	23,642	22,292
France	2,838	1,621	1,262	1,300	918
Denmark	79	227	570	379	345
Germany	1,472	1,334	1,239	1,204	2,719
Holland	968	917	690	1,116	707
Japan	1,890	3,662	3,417	3,602	3,492
Foreign West Indies	263	360	662	598	49
Other Countries ...	3,079	2,673	2,345	2,195	3,162
Unclassified	2,300	1,351	1,710	2,420	1,568
	149,289	148,647	163,035	171,392	174,861

Digitized by Google

The following is a summary of the imports for the last five years:—

	1932. £	1933. £	1934. £	1935. £	1936. £
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco	49,835	49,269	55,118	54,114	57,583
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	15,300	6,929	17,660	14,923	15,321
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ...	81,608	90,778	88,090	99,725	99,095
Class IV.—Animals not for food	—	—	—	210	94
Class V.—Miscellaneous and unclassified ...	2,546	1,671	2,167	2,420	2,768
	149,289	148,647	163,035	171,392	174,861

The following are the percentages in the last five years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained:—

	1932. *Per cent.*	1933. *Per cent.*	1934. *Per cent.*	1935. *Per cent.*	1936. *Per cent.*
United Kingdom	43·72	44·62	43·62	46·14	46·22
United States of America	15·53	15·00	15·13	13·79	12·75
Canada	17·39	16·97	15·96	18·31	18·26
All other Countries ...	23·36	23·41	25·29	21·76	22·77

Exports.

The following is a summary showing the destination and value of exports (excluding, in respect of the years 1934, 1935 and 1936, exports other than island produce) during the past five years:—

Country of destination.	1932. £	1933. £	1934. £	1935. £	1936. £
United Kingdom ...	30,108	34,263	37,425	37,775	51,408
Canada	9,376	14,026	13,078	10,934	18,523
Bermuda	278	182	756	70	124
British West Indies ...	25,366	29,029	24,803	20,151	18,377
British Guiana ...	445	216	669	196	90
United States of America	27,489	35,598	47,717	57,565	55,976
Other Countries ...	4,237	5,816	5,385	5,313	8,482

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The wages of labourers are:—females 6d.-10d., males 1s.-2s. per day of from eight to nine hours.

Agricultural labourers are paid by the task, the payment made being at the rate of 8d.-1s. per task of five to six hours. Such labourers as these are often provided by their employers

Digitized by Google

with house-sites and with small portions of land for cultivation free or at small rentals; pasturage for a limited number of stock is given on the same terms.

There is little change in the conditions of employment from year to year.

The demand for labour at different seasons of the year is subject to wide variations. The reaping of arrowroot, cane and cotton requires the employment of a considerable amount of labour during the first three or four months of the year, and the recent revival in the cotton industry has considerably increased employment during August and September. Little labour is usually required, however, in two periods during the year, namely, from May to July and from October to November.

It is difficult to put a value on the staple foodstuffs of labourers. Such crops as sweet potatoes, corn, peas, yams, cassava, eddoes, etc., are grown on their own land and where land is available for their use. An estate owner sometimes allows his labourers to have the fruit of mango, breadfruit and avocado pear trees, and also other produce grown on the estate. In many cases a charge is made for the use of these fruits or produce. Fish are plentiful in the sea but on the Windward coast fishing is difficult because of the rough seas.

The cost of living for officials varies very much according to the status of their office and the size of their families. Meat is slightly less expensive than in England. Fish, though not always procurable, is cheaper. Local vegetables and fruit are cheap. Groceries and hardware and all dutiable imported goods are mostly dear. Rents of houses are higher than would be charged for houses providing similar accommodation in England. Servants' wages are from a half to a third lower than the wages of English servants, but local servants are far less efficient. On the whole the cost of living is somewhat lower than in England, but mainly because many of the amenities, the enjoyment of which involves higher expenditure in England, are not available.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary education is free but not compulsory. The school-going age extends from five to fifteen years, but provision has been made for the retention to the age of 16 years of pupils attending schools recognized as senior schools.

On the 31st of December, 1936, there were 38 primary schools. Of these 14 belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance, and the remaining 24 to the religious denominations. Of the denominational schools, nine are Anglican, thirteen Methodist and two Roman Catholic. The salaries of all teachers, most of the equipment of both

Digitized by Google

Government and denominational schools, and part of the cost of upkeep of the denominational school-buildings are provided from the general revenue of the Colony.

The following comparative table gives the main figures of primary education in the Colony:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.
Number of schools	37	37	38
Enrolment on 31st December ...	9,413	10,432	10,411
Enrolment per 1,000 of population	176	189	184
Average attendance	5,346	5,998	5,720
Percentage in average attendance	56·7	57·5	54·9
Total Government expenditure...	£8,043	£8,548	£8,873
Cost per child in average attendance	£1 10s. 2d.	£1 8s. 5½d.	£1 11s. 0d.

Other expenditure from funds contributed by the religious denominations amounted to £708 10s. 6½d.

The present school accommodation is inadequate for the number of children of school-going age but it is being steadily increased.

The Government maintains two secondary schools—the Grammar School for boys and the Girls' High School. The fees charged at each school are at the rate of two guineas per term. Part of the fees is remitted when there are two or more pupils from the same family. On 31st December, 1936, the number in attendance at the Grammar School was 70 and at the Girls' High School 73.

In the 1936 Cambridge Local Examination there were 24 entries for the School Certificate and 34 for the Cambridge Junior Examination. Four boys and seven girls passed the School Certificate Examination, and six boys and seven girls passed the Cambridge Junior Examination.

The entry of primary school pupils into the secondary schools is assisted by the annual award, on the results of a competitive examination, of four free places, three of them provided by the Government and one by the municipality of Kingstown. Places, available at biennial or longer intervals, are also maintained by the Anglican Church, the Methodist Church, the Reeves Memorial Scholarship Committee and the Workingmen's Association.

On 31st December, 1936, 21 boys and 14 girls were receiving free secondary education, the percentage of free places being 30 in the Boys' School and 14 in the Girls' School.

There is a scholarship for University education of the annual value of £250. It is awarded biennially on the results of the London Matriculation examination and is tenable for a maximum period of five years at an approved university. The cost of passages to and from the seat of learning is also provided.

Digitized by Google

There are no technical schools but instruction in handicrafts and agriculture is receiving attention in the primary schools.

The Glen Community School, situated five miles from Kingstown, is under the supervision of the Methodist Church; the estate comprises 38 acres. The aim of the school is to assist in developing all-round boys and girls and to fit them to make the most of the circumstances and environment in which they are placed. The boys are instructed in agricultural methods, carpentry, basket-work and mat-weaving, the girls in gardening, needlework, cooking and laundry-work.

The Boy Scouts and Girl Guides organizations are well established. There are 16 troops of the former and 14 companies of the latter.

A number of Friendly Societies, established under the Friendly Society Ordinance of 1843, provide maintenance for their members in the event of accident or ill health.

The St. Vincent Working-men's Co-operative Association provides sick and funeral benefits for their members.

The Thompson Home is an institution maintained by private subscriptions, supplemented by a grant from Government, in which ladies in reduced circumstances are cared for.

The Carnegie Public Library is maintained partly by the Kingstown Board and partly by a grant from the revenue of the Colony. The reading room is free; but for the use of the modern novels in the circulating library a monthly subscription of 6d. per book borrowed is charged.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The roads throughout the Colony are divided into three main groups, viz., Leeward, Windward and the Grenadines. The work of reconstructing and " oiling " the Windward Highway was recommenced and in 1936 a further 2¾ miles were " oiled ". The total " oiled " mileage in the Leeward District is 4 miles, and in the Windward District 16 miles. The roads in the Grenadines are all of earth.

A motor launch and privately owned canoes form the chief means of communication and transport between places on the Leeward coast and the capital, Kingstown, but motor vehicles run frequently as far as Barrouallie, a distance of 12 miles. On the Windward side of the Island motor vehicles supply this need. Between the Grenadines and the mainland, however, sailing boats, the Government Revenue Sloop *Carib,* and the subsidized Schooner *Enterprise,* both of which are fitted with auxiliary engines, are the only means of communication and transport.

Digitized by Google

Below is a table of the Highways and Byways throughout the Colony:—

Roads.	*Mileage Total.*	*Oiled Mileage.*	*Macadamized Mileage.*	*Earth Mileage.*	*Means of Transport.*
Main.					
Leeward Highway...	27½	4	6	17½	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Roads, Kingstown District.	4	1½	2½	—	do.
Windward Highway	25	16	9	—	do.
Vigie Road... ...	11	—	9	2	do.
Byways					
Leeward	64⅜	—	3	61⅜	Carts and animals.
Windward	112¾	—	15	97¾	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Roads in Grenadines.					
Bequia	7½	—	—	7½	Carts and animals.
Union Island ...	12	—	—	12	Foot.
Crown Land Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	53½	—	—	53½	Carts and animals.
Land Settlement Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	78	—	—	78	do.

Postal.

The General Post Office is situated at Kingstown, the capital of the Colony. There are 22 district post offices, of which 10 transact all classes of postal business, including the issue and payment of money orders and postal orders, while the others perform the usual postal delivery with the sale of stamps.

Mails are conveyed to the offices in the Windward district by motor bus and to the Leeward district by motor launch under contract.

Mails are conveyed under contract weekly between St. Vincent, the Grenadines and Grenada by the auxiliary Schooner *Enterprise,* and to Bequia by sailing boat. Mails to Bequia and the Grenadines are also conveyed weekly by the Government auxiliary Sloop *Carib*.

Telegraph service is carried out by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited. There is no wireless telegraph station.

Telephones.

A telephone service maintained by the Government links up Kingstown with two exchanges in the Windward district and one in the Leeward district.

Ample call facilities are given from the various post offices throughout the island on payment of a small fee. Sixteen of these call stations exist, linking together all but the most inaccessible districts of the island.

Digitized by Google

Shipping.

The Colony is served by a regular weekly mail, passenger, and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships, the vessels proceeding north and south calling in alternate weeks.

There is a fortnightly call at St. Vincent by the vessel of this line proceeding south, i.e., from Halifax in the winter and Montreal in the summer and calling at the following places:—Boston, Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad to the southern terminal point Georgetown, British Guiana.

There is also a fortnightly call by vessels of the same line proceeding in the reverse direction from British Guiana to Canada. The vessels of the Canadian National Steamships calling at St. Vincent are of approximately 5,000 tons.

There are therefore regular and comfortable means of communication between St. Vincent and Canada and between St. Vincent and most of the other West Indian Islands and British Guiana.

Passenger steamers of the Harrison Line of approximately 4,000 tons frequently call at St. Vincent on their journey to and from London to Georgetown, British Guiana. These steamers call at the Northern Islands, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana.

It is therefore frequently possible for passengers to proceed between London and St. Vincent by the Harrison Line without transhipment.

In addition, the calls of the Canadian National and the Harrison Steamers at Barbados and Trinidad, from which two colonies there are frequent direct passenger liners to England, provide numerous further opportunities for passengers wishing to travel between this Colony and the United Kingdom.

Steamers of the Trinidad Line (Furness Withy & Co.) and of the " American Caribbean Line " also call from time to time at St. Vincent on their journeys between New York and Georgetown, British Guiana.

In addition to the above there are occasional calls at various periods by steamers of other lines.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) has a note circulation of £12,676. It is estimated that the value of coin in circulation during 1936 amounted to between £4,000 and £8,000. There is a Savings Branch, paying interest at 1½ per cent. per annum.

The St. Vincent Agricultural Credit and Loan Bank, the object of which is to advance money to peasants on crops, has

Digitized by Google

a Savings Department paying interest at 4 per cent. per annum. The amount to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1936, was £5,741.

The Government Savings Bank. The amount standing to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1936, was £19,048. Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum is paid on deposits.

Currency.

All the gold, silver, and bronze coins of the United Kingdom are taken at face value. Silver is legal tender for any amount. The value of the dollar for local purposes is 4s. 2d. of British money.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The more important works carried out during 1936 are:—

Provision of a District Casualty Hospital at Union Island, Southern Grenadines.

Installing of equipment at Syrup Investigation Laboratory.

Improvements to Sub-Prison at the Government Cotton Ginnery.

Installing of a Hydrant at Richmond Hill.

Improving cells at Layou Police Station.

Providing quarters for the boatmen at the Customs.

Constructing grillages and cells at the Police Headquarters.

Alterations at the Audit Office.

Repairing Troumaca Jetty.

Erecting building containing Hayward X-Ray Laboratory and Simmons Bequest Rooms at Colonial Hospital.

Constructing New Mental Home at the Villa.

Renovation of bridges at Arnos Vale and Calliaqua.

Oiling portions of the Windward Highway, 2¾ miles.

Installing Hot Water System at Government House.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Organization of Justice.

1. A Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who is also Magistrate of the Kingstown District.

2. One Magistrate of the Second District (outside Kingstown) which is composed of the following:—Layou, Barrouallie, Chateaubelair (on the Leeward coast), Calliaqua, Mesopotamia, Colonarie and Georgetown (on the Windward coast).

Digitized by Google

3. One Magistrate of the Third District, which is composed of the St. Vincent Grenadines—Bequia, Union Island, Mayreau and Canouan, all of which are dependencies of St. Vincent.

Statistics of Criminal Prosecutions and Convictions.

(First and Second Districts.)

First District.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person	21	94	224	339
Malicious injury of property.	—	3	2	5
Praedial larceny	1	13	16	30
Offences against property	—	1	3	4
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	18	23	216	257
Other offences	6	39	113	158
	46	173	574	793

First District.

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	143	—	6	1	—	211	33	394
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	32	1	1	1	—	1	8	44
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	24	—	3	1	—	—	37	65
Whipping	3	—	3	—	—	3	14	23
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	22	1	3	—	—	1	21	48
	224	2	16	3	—	216	113	574

Digitized by Google

SECOND DISTRICT.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person	18	30	200	248
Malicious injury to property	1	3	14	18
Praedial larceny	12	18	180	210
Offences against property	—	8	59	67
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	9	19	231	259
Other offences	29	38	401	468
	69	116	1,085	1,270

SECOND DISTRICT.

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	88	2	97	16	—	222	145	570
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	32	4	18	20	—	9	117	200
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	14	—	9	8	—	—	47	78
Whipping	18	8	38	10	—	—	53	127
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	48	—	18	5	—	—	39	110
	200	14	180	59	—	231	401	1,085

Police.

ORGANIZATION OF THE POLICE FORCE.

Personnel.—During the greater part of the year the Police Force consisted of one Officer and 61 Non-Commissioned Officers and men. One Officer and 42 other ranks were at Headquarters in Kingstown, the remainder being distributed among the ten outstations.

Digitized by Google

The post of Sub-Inspector was abolished early in the year and the post of Sergeant-Major substituted.

The Sergeant-Major however did not take up his appointment until 30th October.

The Chief of Police is, *ex officio,* Commandant of the Local Forces, Superintendent of Prisons, Superintendent of the Kingstown Fire Brigade, Chief Relieving Officer and Inspector of Weights and Measures.

During the year there were 2,283 police prosecutions. Convictions were obtained in 2,004 cases.

All outstations are in telephonic communication with Headquarters with the exception of the two situated at Bequia and Union Island in the St. Vincent Grenadines. Communication with Bequia by sloop is regular except on Sundays or in very bad weather. Communication with Union Island can only be relied on weekly.

Being under a semi-military organization the constables at headquarters receive training throughout the year in drill, musketry, etc.

Enlistment is for three years, after which period a constable is deemed to remain enrolled for successive three-year periods unless he signifies his intention to resign before the end of a period.

Besides ordinary police duties the members of the Force are called upon to perform the following functions:—Water Police, Crew of the Administrator's boat when required, Firemen, Process Servers outside the Kingstown District, District Relieving Officers and all duties in connection with emigration laws and control. All the clerical work within the department is carried out by the uniformed staff.

Prisons.

Description of the Prisons.

Male Prison.—The buildings in the male prison comprise:—

(1) The record office, warders' mess room and, on the first floor, quarters consisting of three rooms, gallery and bathroom for the Chief Warder and his family.

(2) a building containing two punishment cells and five ordinary cells on the ground floor, the upper storey being occupied by the prison chapel and the warders' dormitory.

(3) The main block of cells, the ground floor consisting of four associated wards (average floor space 220 square feet) and the upper storey containing 16 single cells.

In addition to the above main structures there are a covered work-shed, a covered stone-breaking shed, a bakery, a store-room and a weighing room.

Digitized by Google

Female Prison.—The female prison has only one building, the ground floor of which is divided into three associated wards and the upper floor having a room available for any sick prisoners and quarters for the matron.

There is a covered stone-breaking shed in the yard.

Provision for Juvenile Offenders.

Juvenile offenders are very rarely sentenced to prison. When they are received in prison, they are kept working by themselves at polishing, cleaning and other light tasks. The same practice is followed with regard to youthful offenders who are not technically juveniles, especially those sentenced for their first offence.

Health.

The health of the majority of prisoners on arrival was fair. In nearly all cases those who serve sentences of over a month or six weeks leave prison in better health than at their admission.

Instruction by Schoolmaster.

The instruction commenced in August, 1933, has been continued during the year under review. The result continues to be encouraging.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is a list of the more important Ordinances enacted during the year under review:—

No.	*Short Title.*
1.	Savings Bank.
2.	Customs Duties (Amendment).
8.	Probates (Resealing).
12.	Police (Amendment).
14.	Trinidad Currency Notes.
15.	Local Savings Bank.
16.	Official Emoluments Levy (Amendment).
21.	Registration of Clubs.
22.	Customs Duties (Amendment).
24.	Land and House Tax (Amendment).
28.	Whale Fishery Repeal.
30.	Income Tax (Amendment).
31.	Labour (Minimum Wage) (Amendment).
33.	Public Purposes Loan.

There has been no factory legislation, legislation regarding compensation for accidents, and legislative provision for payments in respect of sickness, old age, etc., during the year.

Digitized by Google

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years excluding assistance from the Colonial Development Fund, were:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1936	81,892	80,973
1935	77,758	77,559
1934	77,819	73,761
1933	72,873	68,150
1932	72,073	67,903

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1936, amounted to £89,926 of which £1,400 comprises Municipal Loans to the town of Kingstown and £29,768 to the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association for the repayment of which general revenue is only responsible in case of default. The accumulated funds towards its redemption amounted to £8,434.

The surplus assets, exclusive of Colonial Development Schemes, at 31st December, 1936, amounted to £26,536 of which £7,296 represents unallocated stores and loans to Boards.

The main heads of taxation are:—

	Yield for 1936.
	£
Import Duties	36,425
Export Duties	3,414
Licences	3,729
Excise Duties	5,076
Land and House Tax	7,169
Income Tax	3,134
Stamp Duties	1,051
Estate Duties	107
Trade Duties	2,423

The Customs Tariff on the principal items of imports is as follows:—

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Boots and shoes (canvas with rubber soles).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 1*s.* per pair.
Boots and shoes (where the outer part of the uppers is made of leather or leather and elastic).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 3*s.* per pair.
Boots and shoes (other kinds).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	18¾ per cent. *ad valorem.*
Flour, wheaten	5*s.* per 196 lb.	7*s.* 6*d.* per 196 lb.
Fish, dried	1*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.	3*s.* 4*d.* per 100 lb.
Rice	1*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.	3*s.* per 100 lb.
Machinery — marine, water and sewerage and industrial.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Digitized by Google

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Machinery — Agricultural, Electrical.	Free.	5 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Sugar, refined	6*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.	9*s.* 9*d.* per 100 lb.
,, unrefined ...	4*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.
Hardware—all kinds ...	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	22½ per cent. *ad valorem.*
Hosiery — cotton and cotton and artificial silk 7*d.* and under per pair value.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 6*d.* per pair.
Hosiery — cotton and cotton and artificial silk over 7*d.* per pair value.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 7*d.* per pair.
Hosiery—silk	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 9*d.* per pair.
Bread, biscuits, etc., unsweetened.	1*s.* 8*d.* per 100 lb.	2*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Oils, edible, lucca, olive and similar oils.	1*s.* per gal.	1*s.* 6*d.* per gal.
Oils, edible, cotton seed and soya bean.	10*d.* per gal.	1*s.* 3*d.* per gal.
Tobacco, manufactured—cigars and cigarettes.	8*s.* 4*d.* per lb.	12*s.* 6*d.* per lb.
Tobacco, snuffs and other manufactured tobacco.	5*s.* 6*d.* per lb.	8*s.* 3*d.* per lb.
Tobacco, unmanufactured.	1*s.* 4*d.* per lb.	2*s.* per lb.
Wood, lumber	7*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 ft.	11*s.* 3*d.* per 1,000 ft.
Motor cars and trucks ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem*
Motor cars (wholly British).	7½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	—
Motor car parts... ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent *ad valorem.*
Motor car parts (wholly British).	7½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	—
Motor car tyres and tubes	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Kerosene oil	3*d.* per gallon.	5*d.* per gallon.
Meats—beef and pork ...	6*s.* per 100 lb.	9*s.* per 100 lb.
Motor spirits	10½*d.* per gal.	1*s.* 6*d.* per gal.
Metals—all kinds ...	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	22½ per cent. *ad valorem.*
Soap, common	5*s.* per 100 lb.	7*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Manures	Free.	Free.
Butter	10*s.* 5*d.* per 100 lb.	25*s.* per 100 lb.
Butter substitutes ...	4*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.
Cotton piece-goods (value 1*s.* and under per yard).	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Cotton piece-goods (value over 1*s.* per yard).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	18¾ per cent. *ad valorem.*

Except in a few instances the *ad valorem* duty levied is 12½ per cent. preferential tariff and 18¾ per cent. general tariff.

An excise duty of 5s. per proof gallon is levied on rum manufactured in the Colony and the amount collected in 1936 was £5,076.

A trade duty of 2s. per proof gallon is imposed on all spirits manufactured in the Colony and 2s. per liquid gallon or proof gallon (whichever quantity is mentioned in the Customs Tariff) on all imported spirits.

Digitized by Google

Stamp duties yielded £1,051 in 1936; the summary of the rates is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Admission to act as a barrister	26	5	0
Admission to act as a solicitor	15	15	0
Agreements under hand, when the subject matter is of the value of £5 and not exceeding £25		1	0
For each additional £25 or part thereof		1	0
Agreement for the purchase or for otherwise dealing with real estate when such purchase or dealing is to be carried out by subsequent deed		2	0
Agreements not otherwise charged for			6
Appraisement of goods, chattels, etc., over the value of £10		2	0
Assignment of property where the value does not exceed £50		2	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof		2	0
Bank cheques			1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes up to three days sight			1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes—other kinds— not exceeding £1			1
Exceeding £1 and not exceeding £10			2
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25			3
For each additional £25 or part thereof			3
Bills of lading			3
Bills of health		4	0
Bills of sale absolute		10	0
Bills of sale by way of security		5	0
Bonds for any sum not exceeding £100		5	0
For each additional £50 or part thereof		2	6
Conveyance or transfer on sale of real property when the amount or value does not exceed £10		1	0
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25		2	6
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50		7	6
For each additional £50 or part thereof		7	6
Customs ships' manifests		1	0
Customs bills of entry inwards			3
Shipping Bill			1½
Legacies:—			
Where the legacy amounts to £50 and does not exceed £100	2	0	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof	1	0	0
Licence for marriage	1	0	0
Mortgage of real property for every £100 or fractional part		10	0
Release of mortgage		10	0
Protest of any bill of exchange		2	0
Receipt for the payment of £1 and upwards			1
Probate of wills and letters of administration where the value of the property exceeds £50 and does not exceed £100		10	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof		10	0

Land and House Tax.

A tax is levied of 2s. per acre or part thereof on land in St. Vincent, and of 3d. to 1s. per acre or part thereof on land

Digitized by Google

in the islands comprising the Grenadines. A tax is levied on houses in the island of St. Vincent and in Union Island at the following rates:—

Upon houses of which the assessed annual rental shall be—

Over £2 and not exceeding £3—1s. per house.
Over £3 and not exceeding £5—2s. per house.
Over £5 and not exceeding £6—2s. 6d. per house.
Over £6 and not exceeding £7 10s.—3s. 4d. per house.
Over £7 10s. and not exceeding £9—4s. per house.
Over £9 and not exceeding £10—5s. per house.
Over £10 and not exceeding £12 10s.—6s. 8d. per house.
Over £12 10s. and not exceeding £15—10s. per house.
Over £15 and not exceeding £20—15s. per house.
Over £20, at the rate of £4 per centum of the assessed annual rental.

No tax is levied on houses in the other islands of the Grenadines. The revenue from this source amounted to £7,169.

These taxes are payable annually during the months of November and December. All unpaid taxes after 31st December are collected during the months of January to March with a fine of 1s. on amounts not exceeding £1 and of 5 per cent. on amounts exceeding £1. Any unpaid taxes after 31st March are handed over to the bailiff for collection.

Water Tax in Country Districts.

Certain districts outside of the limits of the various towns have been provided with pipe-borne water supplies. The boundaries of these districts are prescribed by Order in Council and a graduated tax is levied on all houses situated within such a district.

A house of which the assessed annual rental does not exceed £2 10s. 0d. is taxed 6d., a house the assessed annual rental value of which exceeds £2 10s. 0d. but does not exceed £5 is taxed 1s., and a house the assessed annual rental value of which exceeds £5 is taxed 2s.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Crown Lands.—The sum of £835 5s. 8d. was collected from the sales and leases of Crown Lands during the year, and the arrears amounted to £962 12s. 0d. as compared with £1,065 14s. 5d. in the preceding year.

Surveys.—Fourteen surveys were performed by the Crown Surveyor and none by surveyors in private practice.

Three Rivers Land Settlement Scheme.—Five rural lots at Three Rivers Estate were taken up during the year, and the revenue collected from deposits on these lots together with instalments on lots previously sold amounted to £1,029 7s. 3d. as compared with £821 12s. 8d. in 1935. At the end of 1936 only three plots of land equal in area to approximately 24 acres remained unsold.

Digitized by Google

An Agricultural Credit Society was formed in 1934 in connection with the settlement scheme. In 1936 a loan of £130 was granted by Government to the Society with interest at the rate of 3½ per cent.

The Three Rivers Estate Arrowroot and Syrup Works owned by Government are leased to the Society at a peppercorn rental for co-operative use by members. A satisfactory working profit was shown at the end of the year.

The Ordinance now in force requires members borrowing money from a Society to charge their crops or other property as securities.

Visits of His Majesty's Ships.—His Majesty's Ships *Dundee* and *York* visited this Colony in January and July, 1936, respectively.

Official.—His Excellency Sir Selwyn Grier, K.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, was in the Colony for the following periods during the year: 30th January to 11th February; 17th February to 18th February; 13th May to 19th May; 28th October to 17th November.

Sir Selwyn Grier was on vacation leave from the 7th of June to the 14th of October, during which period His Honour Edward William Baynes, C.B.E., Administrator of St. Lucia, administered the Government of the Windward Islands.

His Honour A. F. Grimble, C.M.G., Administrator of St. Vincent, was appointed to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Seychelles and left this Colony to take up his new appointment on the 5th of March, 1936.

The Honourable John Felix Hamilton Otway, O.B.E., Colonial Treasurer, administered the Government from the 5th of March to the 15th of June.

His Honour Arthur Alban Wright, C.M.G., Secretary for Native Affairs, Fiji, was appointed Administrator and Colonial Secretary of St. Vincent, and arrived in the Colony and assumed the administration of the Government on the 16th of June.

Sir John Maffey, G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., Permanent Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, passed through St. Vincent on the afternoon of the 17th of February, 1936.

Electricity.—Kingstown and environs are lighted by electricity generated by a modern Diesel plant of 130 kilowatts capacity generating at 230-400 volts A.C. three phase 50 cycles.

A refrigerating plant is also run as an adjunct to the Electricity Department.

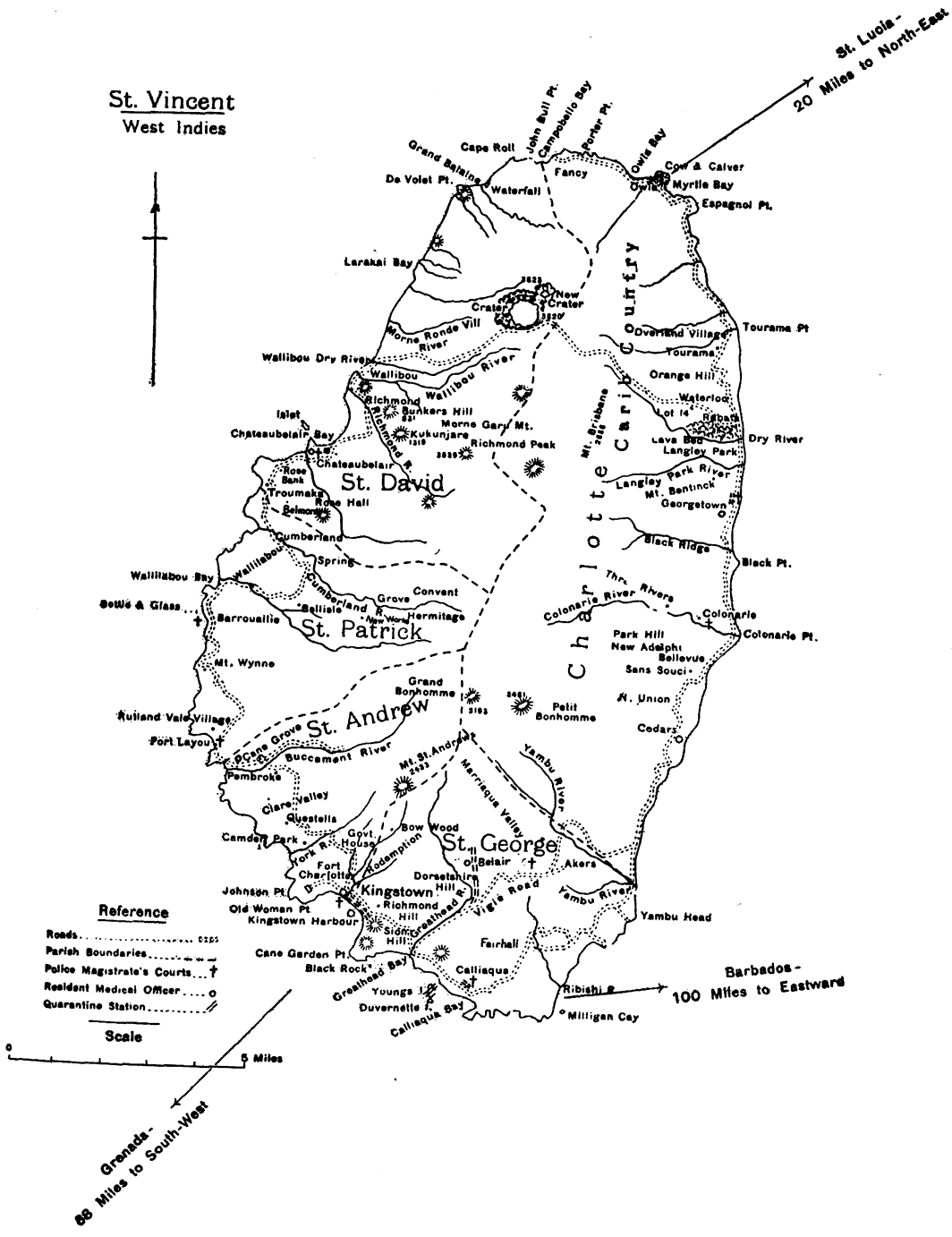
Digitized by Google

APPENDIX.

List of Publications.

Title of Publication.	*Price.*		*Agent for Sale.*
	s.	d.	
St. Vincent Blue Book	10	6	Government of Saint Vincent.
do. Bound Volume of Annual Administration Reports (8).	5	0	do.
do. Census Report, 1931	1	3	do.

Digitized by Google



(44726—48) Wt. 2172—3892 625 11/37 P. St. G. 377/7

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. od. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. od. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935.

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 os. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. od. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1821

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google


Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1820

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1709 and 790 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff:
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1937
Price 1s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937. [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1820

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1709 and 1790 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1937
Price 1s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE FOR THE YEAR 1936

CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
I.	GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY	2
II.	GOVERNMENT	4
III.	POPULATION	5
IV.	HEALTH	6
V.	HOUSING	7
VI.	PRODUCTION	8
VII.	COMMERCE	9
VIII.	WAGES AND COST OF LIVING	12
IX.	EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS	13
X.	COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT	13
XI.	BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	14
XII.	PUBLIC WORKS	15
XIII.	JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS	15
XIV.	LEGISLATION	20
XV.	PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION	20
XVI.	MINING	21
XVII.	MISCELLANEOUS	21
	APPENDIX: LIST OF PUBLICATIONS	22
	MAP.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The British Solomon Islands Protectorate is situated between the parallels of 5° South and 12° 30′ South, and the meridians of 155° and 170° of East longitude.

The Protectorate consists of a double row of mountainous islands, extending at its extremities from Bougainville Straits to Mitre Island, in the Santa Cruz Group, for a distance of 900 miles, and north and south from the Ontong Java Group to Rennell Island for a distance of 430 miles, of which about 11,000 square miles are land.

The native population (mainly Melanesian) was calculated to be 93,415 at the last census taken in April, 1931.

The Solomon Islands were first discovered in the year 1568 by Alvaro de Mendana, while on a voyage of discovery from Peru. The island first sighted he named Ysabel because it was on that Saint's day that he left Callao. In the year 1595 a second expedition under Mendana sailed from Peru, but failed to locate the island of Guadalcanal, whereon it was intended he should form a settlement, and he arrived in the Santa Cruz Group and landed at Graciosa Bay. The new colony proved a failure, the death of Mendana put an end to any prospect of success, and the remnants of the original party returned to Peru.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Southern
12-14-37
15705

In 1767 Captain Cartaret re-discovered the Santa Cruz Group and the north-west coast line of the island of Malaita.

In the same year de Bougainville in the frigate *La Bouleuse* sailed from Monte Video on a deliberate quest of the Terra Australis, which he missed, and arrived at New Guinea; in sailing back he passed through the Straits which are the present north-eastern boundary of the Protectorate, the island to the north being named Bougainville after him, and the one to the south named after Choiseul, who was at the time Minister of France.

Twenty years later, and 700 miles to the south-east, la Perouse, in command of the French frigates *L'Astrolabe* and *La Boussole,* on a voyage of discovery, was wrecked at P'iou on the island of Vanikoro. His fate was unknown for forty years.

From this time many Europeans visited the Group, and the British ships-of-war paid periodical visits.

In 1860 natives were recruited to work on plantations in Queensland and Fiji. The recruiting for Queensland ceased in 1903 and most of the natives were repatriated. Recruiting for Fiji continued until 1910.

Between the years 1860 and 1893 the number of resident white traders gradually increased, until at the time of the Proclamation in 1893 of the British Protectorate over the Southern Solomon Islands (Guadalcanal, Savo, Malaita, San Cristoval, the New Georgia Group and its Dependencies) the number of white residents approached 50.

In 1898 and 1899 the islands of the Santa Cruz Group, including Utupua, Tucopia, Vanikoro, the remote islands of Cherry and Mitre, Sikaiana, and the islands of Rennell and Bellona, were added to the Protectorate, and in 1900 the Northern Islands, namely, Ysabel, Choiseul, the islands of the Bougainville Straits, south and south-east of the main island of Bougainville, and the atoll group of Ontong Java, were transferred under convention from Germany to Great Britain.

The population of the Protectorate in April, 1931, was:—

Europeans	478
Native (Melanesian)	89,568
Native (Polynesian)	3,847
Chinese	164
Japanese	8
Malays	1
Total	94,066

Digitized by Google

The climate of the Solomon Islands, owing to the prevalence of malaria and the general humidity of the atmosphere, is not healthy, but the conditions of living have been progressively improved during recent years and the possibilities of good health during temporary residence are far greater than formerly.

Generally speaking, the seasons are well defined by the trade winds. The south-east season lasts from April until November, when the lowest minimum temperature is recorded, and the highest mean and maximum temperatures are, as a rule, recorded in the months from November to April, which is commonly known as the north-west season.

The rainfall varies considerably from month to month and year to year; the average rainfall, recorded at Tulagi, is approximately 120 inches a year.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The British Solomon Islands Protectorate is administered by a Resident Commissioner (stationed in Tulagi) acting under the authority and control of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific (who resides in Suva, Fiji).

There is no Legislative Council. Laws are made by the High Commissioner—in the form of King's Regulations—under powers conferred by the Pacific Order in Council, 1893.

There is an Advisory Council, consisting of the Resident Commissioner and not more than seven members, three of whom are officials:—

Official Members.

D. R. McDonald, Chief Magistrate and Legal Adviser.
Captain N. S. B. Kidson, Secretary to the Government.
F. E. Johnson, I.S.O., Treasurer.

Non-Official Members.

D. Mackinnon.
G. E. Clift.
Right Reverend W. Baddeley, Bishop of Melanesia.
J. C. M. Scott.

The Protectorate is divided up into eight administrative areas, each under a District Officer.

There is no form of municipal or local government or any Town Council at present.

Digitized by Google

III.—POPULATION.

The native population of the Protectorate at the last census taken in 1931 was as follows:—

Administrative District.	*Males over 16 years.*	*Females over 16 years.*	*Males 16–6 years.*	*Females 16–6 years.*	*Males under 6 years.*	*Females under 6 years.*	*Total.*
Nggela and Savo	2,149	1,300	254	247	700	650	5,300*
Santa Cruz ...	1,865	1,596	347	193	575	504	5,080*
Ysabel and Cape Marsh ...	2,324	1,312	877	581	323	283	5,700*
Guadalcanal ...	4,559	4,387	1,944	1,338	1,028	959	14,215*
Malaita	12,669	12,058	5,484	4,732	2,748	2,376	40,067*
Eastern Solomons	2,430	2,160	245	213	1,382	1,130	7,560*
Shortlands ...	612	382	99	41	81	86	1,301*
Gizo	2,642	1,708	1,036	823	509	455	7,173*
Choiseul ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,051*
Lord Howe ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	750†
Rennell and Bellona Islands	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,500†
Sikaiana... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	235†
Unclassified ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	482*
Totals ...	29,250	24,903	10,286	8,168	7,346	6,443	93,415

* Mainly Melanesian. † Mainly Polynesian.

No very great change in the population has taken place since the last census.

The natives of the Protectorate are for the most part of Papuo-Melanesian stock with variations in skin colour, texture of hair and general physical characteristics.

In certain outlying islands, such as Lord Howe, Rennell, Sikaiana, Santa Calatina and Tucopia, the natives are of Polynesian stock.

The physique of the natives varies considerably in the different islands and even on the same island. It will be found that on the larger islands of Malaita, Guadalcanal, and Choiseul, the " bush " natives are generally of better physique than the " salt-water " natives.

The average height of the Melanesian is about 5 feet 3 inches and the average weight is about 9 stone 2 lbs. The Polynesian is a taller and larger-built man.

In general, the natives are a heterogeneous people of varying races, cultures, religions and standard of living. For this reason, generalities are apt to be misleading as a statement which is perfectly true of one island or section of an island may be entirely inapplicable to another part of the Group.

Digitized by Google

The natives, prior to contact with Europeans, were in the Neolithic stage of civilisation.

Births and Deaths are recorded in the following Districts:—Guadalcanal, Gizo, Nggela and Savo, Eastern Solomons, Shortlands and Ysabel. During the year under review there was no District Officer stationed at Eastern Solomons District or Shortlands District.

The following table gives the latest figures available:—

District	1934. *Births.*	1934. *Deaths.*	1935. *Births.*	1935. *Deaths.*	1936. *Births.*	1936. *Deaths.*
Guadalcanal ...	416	302	455	286	425	436
Gizo	137	111	255	150	198	95
Nggela and Savo ...	113	100	104	93	138	147
Eastern Solomons ...	150	156	—	—	—	—
Shortlands	27	26	—	—	—	—
Ysabel	144	116	127	67	77	45

There are no records from which infantile mortality rates may be calculated.

BIRTH- AND DEATH-RATES (PER 1,000).

District.	1934. *Births.*	1934. *Deaths.*	1935. *Births.*	1935. *Deaths.*	1936. *Births.*	1936. *Deaths.*
Guadalcanal ...	29·0	21·1	31·6	19·9	29·9	30·6
Gizo	18·7	15·1	30·6	18·0	27·6	13·2
Nggela and Savo ...	21·4	19·0	19·8	17·8	26·0	27·7
Eastern Solomons ...	20·0	20·8	—	—	—	—
Shortlands	20·7	19·4	—	—	—	—
Ysabel	24·8	20·0	21·9	11·5	13·5	7·9

With the exception of Eastern Solomons, all Districts from which vital statistics are available recorded an increase of population for the year 1934, a condition which had not previously existed since records have been available. The increase is mainly attributed to the fact that there was no serious epidemic during that year.

All Districts recorded an increase in population in 1935, but this year, owing to influenza, the record was not so good.

IV.—HEALTH.

The year was unfavourable. Influenza became epidemic in May and the Protectorate did not again become free from the disease during the year. It spread through the islands in successive waves and persons who were affected during the first wave again contracted the disease on its subsequent appearance. Very few people escaped entirely. Complications were not infrequent and a serious mortality resulted.

Other diseases showed their usual characters. Malaria is universal and the administration distributed free to natives quinine to the amount of approximately 100 kilogrammes. Yaws, which is also universal among the natives, was vigorously

Digitized by Google

treated. One special unit was kept in the field treating yaws and hookworm and, in addition, treatments were given at Government stations and by medical officers and native medical practitioners while on tour.

Native Labour.

Native labour, in common with the remainder of the Protectorate, suffered in the influenza epidemic. There were forty-four deaths among labourers and of these fifteen at least were due to pneumonia.

An outbreak of beriberi occurred among the labour of the Vanikoro Timber Company and resulted in nine deaths. The cause was found to be the use of deteriorated rice which required vigorous washing with consequent loss of its vitamin content.

The complete list of cause of death is as follows:—

Pulmonary tuberculosis	2
Pneumonia lobar	11
Meningitis (pneumococcic)	1
Pneumonia (broncho)	4
Beriberi	9
Dysentery	2
Septicaemia	1
Malaria	1
Tetanus	1
Accidents	3
Unknown	9

V.—HOUSING.

European buildings throughout the Protectorate are built of wood and have, generally, corrugated-iron roofs. They are good in quality and have adequate sanitary accommodation.

The Chinese houses are of European type consisting usually of three rooms. There is no overcrowding and the sanitary arrangements are regularly inspected.

Except for those in regular employment, natives living in their own villages dwell in houses composed of thatch made from the leaf of the ivory-nut or sago palm, with bamboo or light wood rafters and usually very solid centre-posts. In certain parts, more especially where the natives have come into contact with European influence, the houses are built on wooden piles with a split betel-nut or bamboo flooring, but more usually they have an earth foundation with raised sleeping accommodation or roughly-constructed bunks. The type of building varies considerably from district to district, the natives of the Western Solomons being far superior craftsmen to those of the Eastern Solomons. The houses are generally fairly large and roomy, but rarely afford any means of privacy. The nature of the building material is in itself a safeguard as regards adequate

Digitized by Google

ventilation. The Government encourages the laying out of villages and the construction of better class houses, but it is a superimposed creation which it is as well not to hurry unduly.

The employer of labourers is legally responsible for the daily inspection of his labour houses and it is the duty of District Officers also to make regular periodical inspections of the housing conditions on plantations when on tour. All employers are bound to provide proper sanitary arrangements for their manual labourers.

There are no building societies.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

During the year ended 31st March, 1936, the Protectorate exported the following products:—

	Quantity.	*Estimated value.*
		£
Copra	20,699 tons	156,532
Ivory-Nuts	373 ,,	2,249
Trocas shell	352 ,,	24,567
Beche-de-mer	17 ,,	2,737
Green snail shell	72 ,,	1,918
Timber	1,872,085 sup. feet	8,003
		£196,006

The figures in this Report relate to the financial year 1935-6. During the calendar year 1936 the Copra market, upon which the whole finances of the Protectorate depend, after several years of deep depression, was fair during the first three-quarters of the year, and enabled the planters to receive a payable return for their produce. During the last three months the market rose rapidly from £10 per ton to £17 15s. per ton, and at the close of the year there was every hope of a return to prosperity.

Messrs. Lever's Pacific Plantations Proprietary Limited produce exclusively a superior hot-air dried copra, and Messrs. Malayta Company Limited, Solomon Islands Development Company Limited, and Shortland Islands Plantations Limited, produce a considerable quantity of the same high grade copra.

The present difference in value between this hot-air dried copra and the crudely smoked copra would scarcely justify the additional expense of production and the outlay necessary to convert the smoke-drier on the smaller plantations.

The export duty on copra is on a sliding scale of 5 per cent. on the London price of sun-dried copra, less a parity of £5. This tax is adjusted on each Monday prior to the arrival of the mail steamer.

The price paid in Tulagi for Trocas shell at no period of the year fell below £80 per ton. It is difficult to explain this

Digitized by Google

inflated price as the quantity exported was only about 50 tons below the average yearly shipment and there appears to be no shortage of this product. It is understood that the bulk of this shell is sold in Sydney from whence it is shipped to England and from there to Czecho-Slovakia.

The high price paid for this product has encouraged Japanese adventurers to poach the reefs of the Protectorate for it.

Ivory nuts grow wild. The natives collect the nuts and sell them to non-native traders. The market is small and not dependable.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Import and export statistics for the financial years ended 31st March, 1934, 1935, and 1936 are as follows:—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1934	158,776	111,669
1935	145,939	94,074
1936	150,163	198,358

Imports.

	From United Kingdom.	*From other parts of the British Empire.*	*Foreign.*
	£	£	£
1934	18,357	101,508	38,911
1935	22,337	90,946	32,656
1936	20,608	98,807	30,748

Digitized by Google

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

Commodity.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1934.*		*1935.*		*1936.*	
			Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
				£		£		£
Bags and sacks	India	doz.	32,005	10,460	22,363	7,174	30,622	10,098
Biscuits (plain)	Australia	lb.	310,114	4,683	290,684	4,226	290,131	3,793
Drapery	Australia		—	2,918	—	1,891	—	1,418
	China		—	2,399	—	743	—	578
	United Kingdom...		—	3,003	—	3,808	—	5,760
Hardware	Australia		—	3,000	—	1,445	—	1,691
	United Kingdom...		—	914	—	933	—	1,121
Machinery	Australia		—	6,305	—	4,607	—	3,918
	United Kingdom...		—	3,039	—	6,549	—	2,568
	U.S.A.		—	342	—	947	—	1,319
Meats (preserved)	Australia	lb.	303,493	7,435	281,714	6,744	244,040	6,363
	New Zealand ...	,,	1,703	80	5,207	252	7,542	383
Kerosene	U.S.A.	gal.	41,171	3,042	16,654	1,259	24,569	1,832
	Borneo	,,	30,944	1,206	27,641	979	44,949	1,706
Motor Fuel	Borneo	,,	33,492	1,447	57,233	2,143	76,208	2,461
	U.S.A.	,,	33,356	2,312	24,810	1,636	21,707	1,506
Paints	Australia	tons	22	1,856	28	2,151	21	1,812
	United Kingdom...	,,	3	136	2	187	2	118
Rice	Burma	,,	607	6,048	1,061	10,587	1,200	13,572
	China	,,	142	1,223	34	227	17	194
	Australia	,,	30	365	7	146	8	99
	India	,,	551	5,875	116	1,087	38	435
Tobacco	U.S.A.	lb.	62,930	9,609	56,946	6,410	53,137	6,413

Digitized by Google

Exports.

	To Australia.	To Europe.	To United States of America.
	£	£	£
1934	79,952	25,755	Nil
1935	61,301	31,333	Nil
1936	123,644	70,325	Nil

Principal Exports.

Commodity.	Destination.	Unit.	1934.		1935.		1936.	
			Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
				£		£		£
Copra	Australia	tons	13,894	41,440	10,564	22,480	12,328	83,480
	U.S.A.	,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Europe	,,	6,483	25,339	6,807	30,600	7,914	69,158
Trocas shell	Australia	,,	445	24,172	408	23,694	336	23,400
	New Hebrides ...	,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Europe	,,	5	190	8	430	16	1,167
	Mandated Solomons	,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ivory nuts	Australia	,,	790	5,058	636	3,357	270	1,754
	Europe	,,	37	210	39	153	—	—
	Mandated Solomons	,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green snail shell	Australia	,,	167	2,059	104	1,533	72	1,918
	Europe	,,	—	—	8	150	—	—
Beche-de-mer	Australia	,,	13	1,582	15¼	1,470	17	2,737
Timber	Australia	Sup. feet	735,419	2,935	1,418,984	5,938	1,872,085	8,003

Digitized by Google

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The cost of living in Tulagi for European officials and residents is high, practically everything being imported and such imported articles showing a higher price than in the United Kingdom or Australia.

Fresh meat averages 1s. 6d. a pound, the best joints costing 1s. 9d. a pound. Ice costs 1s. 6d. a large block and 9d. a small block, bread 9d. a two-pound loaf, and eggs 3d. each. The cost of poultry in Tulagi ranges from 2s to 3s. 6d. each. The living in outlying islands is considerably cheaper as poultry, pigs and cows can be reared and vegetables grown.

The average rate of wages for Europeans employed on plantations ranges from £16 to £25 per month, the hours of work being from forty-five to fifty per week.

With the exception of a few Asiatic mechanics and tradesmen, whose wages vary from £10 to £16 a month, the natives of the Protectorate constitute the whole of the available labour for all undertakings. Employment is of two categories, indentured and non-indentured. Natives may be indentured for periods not exceeding two years. Women may not be employed under contract otherwise than to a European female for the purposes of domestic service. Juvenile labour may only be employed for light work. The hours of work are nine hours a day for five days of the week, and five hours on Saturdays. One thousand one hundred and forty-six labourers were signed on under contracts for varying periods, and two hundred and two signed on for an extension of their original service.

Every employer of native labour, whether under written contract of service, or under verbal, monthly, or day-to-day agreements, is compelled by Government regulations to provide rations, soap, salt, bedding, tobacco, and clothing for the labourer and for his wife and children if they accompany him. The labourer is therefore not affected by a change in the price of food and the cost of living. Ration books have to be kept by employers of five and more labourers, and they are subject to Government inspection.

The cost of living and the quantity eaten by a native in his own village would be difficult to estimate.

There is no doubt that climate influences diet, and diet depends on local conditions. In the Protectorate this varies through all graduations from that of the Melanesian "bushman" on Malaita, the basis of whose dietary is taro and similar plants, to that of the Polynesian on coral atolls, whose diet is almost exclusively fish and coconut.

The dietary is mainly vegetarian. There is no actual shortage of food as, when the staple crop fails, there is a plentiful supply of wild yams, wild taro, and wild bananas.

Digitized by Google

There are no industrial factories or underground mines and there is no unemployment or land scarcity in the Protectorate.

Roughly, only one-eighth of the total native adult male population is employed for wages; all the others are private landowners who work in their own time and for periods to suit themselves.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There are no Government schools. Each of the five mission societies operating in the Protectorate (i.e., the Melanesian Mission, The Methodist Mission, the South Sea Evangelical Mission, The Seventh Day Adventist Mission, and the Marist Mission) provides elementary education at its principal schools without financial assistance from the Government. In the case of the Seventh Day Adventist Mission, however, the Government made a grant of £50 to assist the mission school where technical education, though rudimentary, was being imparted.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

Communication was maintained between Australia and the Protectorate by Messrs. Burns Philp and Company's mail vessels. The M.V. *Malaita* called direct from Australia every six weeks, and after making several calls in the Protectorate proceeded to the Mandated Territory of New Guinea, returning, via Tulagi, to Australia. Messrs. Burns Philp and Company receive an annual subsidy of £12,000 from the Commonwealth Government of Australia, to which the Protectorate Government contributes a yearly sum of £3,000. In return, the Protectorate receives certain abatements in cost of Government passages and freights.

In addition, direct oversea shipments were made in British, French, German and Japanese vessels during 1935-6.

The following figures represent the respective number and tonnage of ships of different nationalities, which visited the Protectorate for the purpose of exporting produce during the financial year 1935-6:—

	Number.	*Tonnage.*
British	35	55,803
French	1	104
German	5	4,585
Japanese	1	3,407

Inter-island communication was maintained at irregular intervals by sailing vessels with auxiliary engines, owned by planters and traders, and by the Government schooners which are attached to the groups of islands forming Districts.

Digitized by Google

Railways and Roads.

There are no railways in the Protectorate. On coconut plantations where motor-cars and motor-lorries are used, ribbon tracks of coral have been made through the palm groves which stand up well to the traffic. Native villages are linked up usually by paths and tracks, varying in quality, but the sea and canoes are used generally for transport over long distances.

Postal.

The postal service of the Protectorate, outside the regular itinerary of Messrs. Burns Philp and Company's mail vessel, is carried out in an intermittent fashion by small inter-island vessels or by chance auxiliary craft owned by traders and recruiters. There is a Postmaster in Tulagi, and District Officers throughout the Protectorate perform necessary postal duties. A money order service exists with the Commonwealth Government of Australia, through whose agency money can be remitted to various parts of the world. There is also a postal note service.

There is no submarine cable or telegraph system in the Protectorate. The Government wireless station maintains communication with the outer world. In addition there is a privately-owned wireless station at Vanikoro in the Santa Cruz Group, the property of the timber company. This latter station is capable of communicating with the outer world, but, in accordance with the terms of the company's licence, all its traffic is routed via Tulagi. A telephone system exists in Tulagi, connecting up various Government offices and certain private houses.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are no banks in the Protectorate except a branch of the Commonwealth Savings Bank which transacts savings bank business only.

Currency.

Local currency notes are issued for sums of 5s., 10s., £1 and £5; and notes to the value of £4,637 have been issued. United Kingdom and Australian currencies also circulate.

Weights and Measures.

Weights and measures are on the same basis as in the United Kingdom.

Digitized by Google

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The staff of the Department consists of a Superintendent of Works (acting), a European Foreman, a head Chinese mechanic, and two other Chinese mechanics.

Other Chinese mechanics and carpenters as well as natives are engaged as required.

A new house for the District Officer was erected at Vanikoro, the old one having been wrecked by an earthquake. Maintenance of buildings has, as usual, taken up the greater part of the time, and this work, owing to the great distances apart, in sea miles, of the various islands and the comparative absence of transport, is accompanied by delays and other inconveniences.

Repairs to Government schooners and launches have been carried out during the year.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

Justice is administered by His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. This Court, created by earlier Orders in Council, was continued and further provided for by the Pacific Order in Council, 1893. Its members are the High Commissioner, the Judicial Commissioners, and the Deputy Commissioners. Judicial Commissioners are of two kinds. The Chief Justice of Fiji and every other Judge for the time being of the Supreme Court of Fiji are Judicial Commissioners by virtue of their office. The High Commissioner may appoint, in addition, persons of legal knowledge and experience to be Judicial Commissioners for particular purposes or for a particular time.

The principal judicial officer in the Protectorate is the Chief Magistrate, who is also Legal Adviser. He is appointed to be a Judicial Commissioner for the term of his tenure of the post of Chief Magistrate. The Court held before a Judicial Commissioner has powers similar to those of the Superior Courts in England, but when held before a Deputy Commissioner its jurisdiction is subject to certain limitations.

The Court of Appeal is the Supreme Court of Fiji. There is no provision for formal appeal in criminal cases, but powers of remission and commutation are vested in the High Commissioner, and all sentences of imprisonment exceeding six months or fine exceeding £100, when passed otherwise than by the High Commissioner or a Judicial Commissioner, must be submitted to the Court of Appeal for review.

Digitized by Google

Police and Prisons.

The Police Force in the Protectorate is an armed constabulary which performs the dual function of a Defence Force and Police. The personnel consists of the Commandant, a European Sub-Inspector, two Sergeants-Major and 112 other ranks. There has been no Sub-Inspector throughout the year, but otherwise the force has been kept at full strength and the number of men of the required physical standard offering themselves as recruits have been plentiful. The detachments at District Headquarters have been posted to suit requirements. The health of the Force has been good and a high standard of discipline maintained.

There is a central prison at Tulagi and small local gaols in the various Districts. At present the Commandant of Armed Constabulary is also Superintendent of Prisons. Throughout the year the post of gaoler was filled by a European officer of another department. The establishment consists of fifteen native warders and a wardress at Tulagi, and one warder at each of the district prisons. The discipline throughout the year has been satisfactory, and the health of the convicts has been good. No deaths have occurred. There were 89 convicts in the Central Prison at the beginning of the year and 78 on the last day of the year. There were no executions during 1936.

Digitized by Google

1. Crimes Reported or Known to the Police, and Persons Proceeded Against on Charge of Crime.

Crime.	Crimes reported or known to the Police.			Persons proceeded against.				
	Total.	Not brought before a Magisterial Court for want of Evidence.	Brought before a Magisterial Court.	Number.			Apprehended.	Summoned.
				Total.	M.	F.		
1. Homicide	3	—	3	3	3	—	3	—
2. Other offences against the person.	99	—	99	102	101	1	44	58
3. Praedial larceny	44	—	44	45	41	4	12	33
4. Other offences against property	73	—	73	76	76	—	13	63
5. Other crimes	406	—	406	423	397	26	132	291

Digitized by Google

2. Persons Tried Summarily or Committed for Trial.

Crime or Offence.	Discharged.			Committed for Trial.	Convicted Summarily.				
						Sentences.			
	Number (total).	For want of prosecution.	On the merits of the case.		Total.	Imprisonment.	Whipping.	Fines.	Bound over or otherwise disposed of.
1. Homicide	4	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
2. Other offences against the person	89	—	3	17	69	36	—	26	7
3. Praedial larceny	43	—	4	2	37	23	—	10	4
4. Malicious injury to property...	24	—	1	5	18	14	—	2	2
Other offences against property (other than praedial larceny and malicious injury to property).	73	5	10	—	58	42	1	8	7
Other offences, viz. :—									
Offences against the Master and Servant laws, including laws relating to labourers under contract.	97	—	5	—	92	6	—	69	17
Offences against Revenue laws, Municipal, Road, and other laws relating to the social economy of the Protectorate.	150	—	43	—	107	12	—	76	19
Miscellaneous minor offences	282	—	43	—	239	133	2	44	60

Digitized by Google

3. Persons Tried on Order of Committal for Indictable Offences.

Crime or Offence.	Total.	Before a Judicial Commissioner.	Before a Deputy Commissioner.	Sex.		Not tried. (Nolle prosequi, &c.)	Found insane before trial.	Acquitted.	Convicted.								
				M.	F.				Total.	Penal servitude.	Imprisonment.	Whipping.	Fine.	Death.	Bound over or otherwise disposed of.		
1. Murder of wife or concubine ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Murder of child	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Murder, other than wife, child or concubine.	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Manslaughter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
2. Attempted murder ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Rape	3	2	1	3	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—		
Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Other offences against the person ...	20	14	6	20	—	—	—	5	15	5	10	—	—	—	—		
3. Praedial larceny	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
4. Offences against property with violence	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Other offences against property ...	14	3	11	14	—	—	—	—	14	2	12	—	—	—	—		
5. Other crimes	3	—	3	2	1	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—		

Digitized by Google

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is the more important legislation enacted during the year 1936:—

KING'S REGULATIONS.

No. 1. *Public Health (Amendment) Regulation,* 1936.—To amend the definition and the appointments with regard to Sanitary Officers.

No. 2. *Advisory Council Regulation,* 1936.—To govern the constitution and duties of the Advisory Council and to regulate the conduct of business at meetings thereof.

No. 3. *Agriculture and Live Stock (Amendment) Regulation,* 1936.—To amend the Agriculture and Live Stock Regulation, 1935, in particular with regard to fumigation, the landing of plants and live stock, etc., and offences against the Regulation.

No. 4. *Licence (Amendment) Regulation,* 1936.—To amend the Solomons Licence Regulation, 1916.

No. 5. *Mining (Amendment) (Royalties) Regulation,* 1936.—To amend the Mining Regulation, 1927, by providing for the payment of 5 per cent. of the value of gold mined, extracted or collected.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1934	53,039	56,822
1935	52,927	54,207
1936	58,465	49,224

The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st March, 1936, was £71,816.

Public Debt:—Nil.

Taxation:—

Description of main heads of taxation.

	£	*Yield.* £
Customs:		
Import duties	25,233	
Export duties	8,142	
		33,375
Licences and Internal Revenue:		12,016
Ship licences	836	
Station licences	1,082	
Native tax	8,285	
Fees of Court and Office, etc.		1,592
Hospital fees	316	
Harbour light dues	662	
Post Office		3,998
Sale of stamps	3,526	
Telegraph receipts	307	
Rents and Royalties		3,365
Land rents	3,072	
Interest on investments		2,119
Miscellaneous		845
Land		109

Digitized by Google

XVI.—MINING.

A Mining Area has been proclaimed on the Sorvohio and Tsarivonga Rivers in the interior of the island of Guadalcanal between about 13 and 20 miles distant by road, track and river-bed from its northern coast. Two mining leases, each of 300 acres, have been granted within this area to Solomon Islands Gold Development, Limited, for the purpose of mining for gold by hydraulic sluicing.

The country in this vicinity is mountainous, and cut through by precipitous gorges through which the water finds its way from the interior to the coastal flats and thence to the coast.

Three prospecting licences on the Sutakiki River are still being prospected by Solomon Islands Gold Development, Limited, where the country is even more rugged and broken.

Eight prospecting licences have been issued by the Mining Board; sixteen miner's rights have been granted and nine have been renewed.

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Meetings of the Advisory Council were held on 12th to 15th June and 20th to 23rd October, 1936.

In 1932 an Agricultural Committee was formed and work was begun in connection with investigations regarding diseases of the coconut palm. This work was only made possible by a generous free grant of £5,000 from the Colonial Development Fund together with an appropriation of £5,000 from the Reserve Funds of the Protectorate. To assist further, Messrs. Lever's Pacific Plantations Proprietary, Limited, made an offer, which was accepted, of £600 a year towards the salary of a second entomologist. This contribution was later discontinued, on the transfer of the second entomologist, and Messrs. Lever's are now employing an officer. The caging experiments to induce nutfall by the green coconut bug (Amblypelta cocophaga, China) have been continued on Guadalcanal and Gavutu in co-operation with the entomologist employed by Messrs. Lever's. The Dutch scientists in Java have promised to help with the introduction of one of the egg-parasites of the closely related Dasynus, a pepper pest in Sumatra, as a control for Amblypelta. The temperature in Brisbane proving fatally low for the transport of Tetrastichodes (the parasite of the Brontispa beetle), the entomologist met in Rabaul a consignment sent from Java. Owing to the long interval between the arrivals of the K.P.M. (Dutch) and Burns Philp liners, these parasites had to be kept in coolers for a longer period than they were able to stand and so failed to emerge. New arrangements, perhaps involving air transport, are under consideration.

Towards the end of the year there were severe North-West gales and heavy seas, and earth tremors were frequent in June but did no damage.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX.

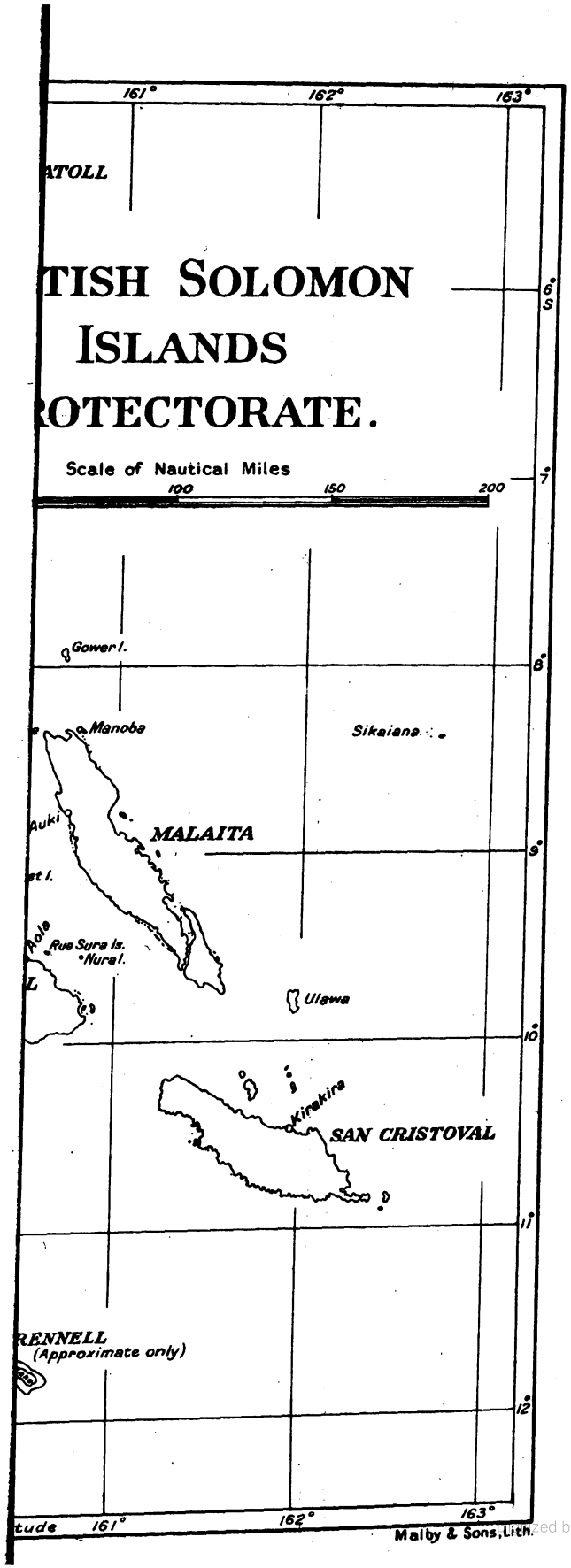
Publications relating to the British Solomon Islands Protectorate.

Title, etc.	*Price.*	*Publishers or Agents.*
*The Solomon Islands (in his "Autobiography"), 1908, by Rev. George Brown.	15s.	Hodder and Stoughton.
"Notes of Voyage to Ysabel Island, Solomon Group, and Le Ua Niua (Ontong Java or Lord Howe) and Tasman Groups." Paper read at the Adelaide meeting of the Australian Association for the Advancement of Science, January, 1907.	—	—
Solomon and Santa Cruz Islands in his "Melanesian Studies in Anthropology and Folk-lore," 1891, by Dr. R. H. Codrington.	16s.	Frowde.
*"The Threshold of the Pacific," 1924, by Dr. C. E. Fox.	18s.	K. Paul.
Papers in the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, 1915 and 1919.	—	—
*Solomon and other islands in his "Memoir and Journal of Commodore Goodenough," 1876, by Commodore Goodenough.	5s.	K. Paul.
*"The Solomon Islands and their Natives," 1887, by Dr. H. P. Guppy.	25s.	Sonnenschein.
"The Discovery of the Solomon Islands," 1568, by Alvaro Mendana.	—	—
*Santa Cruz Group, Cherry Island, etc., in his "New Guinea and Polynesia, Discoveries and Surveys," 1876, by Captain John Moresby.	15s.	Murray.
*Solomons, Santa Cruz Islands, and Tikopia in his "History of the Melanesian Society," 1914, by W. H. R. Rivers.	36s.	Cambridge University Press.
"Islands of the Western Pacific," by Bishop J. R. Selwyn.	—	—
*"Two years with the Natives in the Western Pacific," 1913, by Dr. Felix Speiser.	10s. 6d.	Mills and Boon.
"Last Cruise of the Wanderer," 1863, by John Webster.	—	—
"A Naturalist among the Head Hunters," 1890, by C. M. Woodford.	8s. 6d.	G. Philip & Son.
*"Solomon Islands" (Paper read before the Royal Geographical Society, 1890).	—	—
*"Further Exploration in the Solomon Islands" (Paper read before the Royal Geographical Society, 1890).	—	—
*"In the Isles of King Solomon," 1928, by A. I. Hopkins.	21s.	Seeley Service & Co.
*Solomon Islands Protectorate Blue Book ...	5s.	Crown Agents for the Colonies.
*Handbook of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate.	2s. 6d.	Out of print.
*Census Report, 1931, together with various ethnological reports (typewritten).		

Note.—There are no local agents for the sale of these publications.
* Copies may be seen in the library of the Colonial Office.

(45071—48) Wt. 2330—3899 625 11/37 P. St. G. 377/7

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935.

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps, [Colonial No. 111] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. 0d. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, Yo

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chicheste

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1820

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google


Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1819

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

BAHAMAS, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1738 (Price 1s. 0d.) and 1768 (Price 1s. 3d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 1s. 3d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937. [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1819

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

BAHAMAS, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1738 (Price 1s. 0d.) and 1768 (Price 1s. 3d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 1s. 3d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE BAHAMAS FOR 1936

CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, Climate and History	2
II.	Government	4
III.	Population	5
IV.	Health	6
V.	Housing	8
VI.	Production	9
VII.	Commerce	14
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	16
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	16
X.	Communications and Transport	18
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	20
XII.	Public Works	21
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	23
XIV.	Legislation	25
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	26
XVI.	Miscellaneous	27
	Appendix—Bahamas Publications	29
	Sketch Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Colony of the Bahamas, a chain of islands, cays, rocks and reefs lying to the east of Florida and the north of Cuba, form the northern group of the West Indian Archipelago which stretches in a curve from the southern coast of North America to the northern coast of South America, and consists of the Bahamas, the Greater Antilles and the Lesser Antilles. Extending over an area of 760 miles the Bahamas comprise nearly 700 islands and over 2,000 cays and rocks. The aggregate land surface of the group is 4,400 square miles, which is slightly greater than that of Jamaica, the largest of the British West Indian Islands.

New Providence, although not one of the larger islands, is the most important, as it contains the capital, Nassau, which is the chief port, and is inhabited by nearly one-quarter of the total population of the Colony. The island is about 21 miles in length from east to west, and seven miles in breadth from north to south. It is mostly flat and covered with brush wood, and has several extensive lagoons.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Sutherland
12-14-37
15-205

The islands are mostly long, narrow and low-lying, and except in the cases of Abaco, Andros and Grand Bahama, not well wooded.

There are extensive pine forests on Andros, Grand Bahama, and Abaco, and a certain amount of mahogany and hardwood is to be found on the last-mentioned island.

The ground is very rocky, but there are patches of excellent land containing rich fertile soil, and there are extensive tracts of land in some of the islands which are suitable for pasture.

There are no mountains, and very few hills, but the islands are by no means lacking in beauty. The fine white sand studded with powdered pink coral, and the ever changing and wonderful colouring of the sea, makes a picture which is not easily forgotten.

Climate.

The winter climate of the Bahamas is most delightful. Frost is unknown, the average temperature is about 70° Fahrenheit, the rainfall is slight, and cool breezes prevail. The rainy months are May, June, September and October. The total rainfall for 1936 in New Providence was 47·73 inches.

The greatest heat is experienced during July, August and September, the temperature ranging from 80° to 90° F. Although the heat during the summer months is trying, and the mosquitoes and sandflies are troublesome, the islands are never unhealthy. The malaria mosquito is unknown in the Colony.

History.

At the time when the Bahamas were first discovered, that is to say in 1492, they were inhabited by a race of Indians who were removed to Haiti by the Spaniards to work in the mines. A few stone implements are occasionally found, but, apart from this, there is no trace of the aboriginal inhabitants. The Spaniards made no attempt to colonize the islands, which remained uninhabited until about the year 1629, when they were included in a Royal Grant, from which date they were visited from time to time by settlers from Bermuda. Earlier than that, namely 1578, they were already regarded as part of the British domains. In 1647, a Company of " Eleutherian Adventurers " was formed in London for the purpose of colonizing the islands, which were granted by Parliament to the Company despite the earlier Royal Grant. In 1670, yet a third grant was made by Charles II, vesting the islands in six Lords Proprietors.

Two years after the grant of the charter the first Governor was appointed by the Lords Proprietors. He and his successors found it extremely difficult to cope with the buccaneers, who at this time were the virtual rulers of the country. In 1673, one Governor was seized and deported to

Digitized by Google

Jamaica; in 1690, another was deposed and imprisoned; and it seems that the only Governors who escaped trouble were those who left the inhabitants to do as they pleased. In addition to internal troubles the Governors appointed by the Lords Proprietors had to deal with invasion. In 1680, the Spaniards destroyed the settlement and carried off the Governor to Cuba. In 1703, a combined force of French and Spaniards destroyed Nassau and carried off the negro slaves, most of the white inhabitants fleeing to Carolina. The new Governor, who arrived in 1704, found New Providence totally uninhabited, and returned to England.

Within a few years, however, Nassau was re-established as the headquarters of the pirates in West Indian waters, and so great were the depredations of these pirates that the British Government found it necessary to send out a Governor to control the Colony and drive the pirates from their stronghold. This Governor, Captain Woodes Rogers, arrived in Nassau in 1718, and in December of that year eight of the leading pirates were executed and the others compelled to give up their nefarious trade. A period of comparative quiet followed. In 1776, however, a fleet belonging to the rebellious American Colonies captured the town of Nassau and carried off the Governor, but after a few days the place was evacuated. Five years later a Spanish force took possession of Nassau and left a garrison, but in 1783 the Spaniards were driven out by a British expedition.

The subsequent history of the Bahamas is comparatively uneventful. The abolition of slavery in 1838 caused an economic and social change; the outbreak of Civil War in the United States led to a period of considerable prosperity in the Colony, which, between the years 1861 and 1865, became a depot for vessels running the " blockade " imposed against the Confederate States.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The present Constitution of the Bahamas is similar to those of the North American Colonies prior to the War of Independence. The Government is modelled upon that of England in the early days, the Governor representing the Sovereign, and the nominated Legislative Council and the elected House of Assembly representing respectively the Houses of Lords and Commons.

" The Eleutherian Adventurers," who came to the Bahamas from Bermuda after the Parliamentary grant of 1647, brought with them a conception of representative Government already established in Bermuda, and the affairs of the infant Settlement were managed by a Governor, a Council, and an elected Senate. The Charter of 1670 to the Lords Proprietors provided for an elected House of Assembly, and the Constitution,

Digitized by Google

much as it exists to-day, was finally settled in 1729, when the Crown assumed direct control of the Colony. The Bahamas enjoy representative, though not responsible, Government. The Executive Government is in the hands of a Governor, appointed by the Crown, who has the power of veto, and is advised by an Executive Council. Various executive powers and the right to enact certain subsidiary legislation are vested by law in the Governor in Council.

The Legislative Council, consisting of nine members nominated by the Crown, was created as a separate Council by Royal Letters Patent in 1841.

The House of Assembly is composed of 29 members elected for 15 districts. The qualification for members is possession of real or personal property to the value of £200. The Out Islands seldom return a member of their own community, their 21 representatives being generally inhabitants of New Providence. The qualification for electors is ownership of land to the value of £5 or the occupation of houses of annual rental value of £2 8s. in New Providence, or half that amount in the Out Islands. Women have not the vote. The normal life of the House is seven years, but it may be dissolved at any time by the Governor, as occurred in June, 1928, and in May, 1935.

No forms of local Government exist.

III.—POPULATION.

The following table shows the area and population of each of the principal islands of the Group:—

Island.	*Area in square miles.*	*Population at last Census (1931).*
Abaco and Cays	776	4,233
Acklins	133	1,765
Andros	1,600	7,071
Berry Islands	10	222
Bimini	8	736
Cat Island	160	3,959
Cay Sal and Cay Lobos	1½	20
Crooked Island	76	1,329
Eleuthera	158	6,168
Exuma and Cays	80	3,774
Grand Bahama	430	2,241
Harbour Island	1½	793
Inagua	560	667
Long Island	130	4,515
Long Cay	8	144
Mayaguana	90	518
New Providence	60	19,756
Ragged Island and Cays	4	424
Rum Cay	29	252
San Salvador or Watlings	60	675
Spanish Wells	½	566
	4,375¼	59,828

Digitized by Google

The estimated population for the whole Colony on 31st December, 1936, was 66,219, made up of 30,890 males and 35,329 females.

Births.—There were 1,973 births in the Colony during the year, or 32·9 per 1,000 based on the census figures, 1931.

Deaths.—There were 1,127 deaths in the Colony during the year, or 18·8 per 1,000 based on the census figures, 1931.

Marriages.—There were 574 marriages in the Colony during the year. The marriages were performed by Marriage Officers of the following denominations:—

Anglican	76
Roman Catholic	35
Methodist	49
Baptist	303
Others	111

Infantile Mortality.—There were 148 deaths of children under one year, or 77·8 per 1,000 living births.

Emigration and Immigration.—During the year 10,917 persons left the Colony and 11,308 were admitted, of whom a large proportion were winter visitors.

Immigration is controlled by the Immigrants Act (Chapter 258) and strict supervision is exercised by the authorities to prevent undesirable immigrants and passengers arriving in the Colony.

IV.—HEALTH.

The climate of the Colony is most conducive to good health, and Nassau, the capital, can boast of an excellent pipe-borne water supply, and up-to-date sewerage system, as well as an ice plant.

The city water and the ice manufactured from it are analysed weekly, and have shown a high bacteriological standard.

Medical.

The Medical and Public Health Service is administered by a Health Board, of which the Chief Medical Officer is Chairman.

The medical problems in the Bahamas are chiefly those arising out of poverty—syphilis, tuberculosis and pellagra, in that order of importance. Otherwise the Colony is a remarkably healthy one. Malaria has disappeared, typhoid is fast disappearing, hook-worm is unknown, diphtheria sporadic, and the infectious diseases are unimportant.

The Government expended on medical care during 1936 the sum of £16,863, and on sanitation £4,111 or 8·5 per cent. of the Colony's revenue.

Owing to the financial year being altered to correspond with the calendar year these figures represent the Medical and Sanitation expenditure and Colony's revenue for the period from the 1st April to the 31st December, 1936.

Digitized by Google

The medical needs of the Colony in New Providence are met by:—

(*a*) The Bahamas General Hospital, which has a full time resident staff of three doctors, a European Matron, three European sisters, 46 native nurses, in all a staff of 116 (all ranks).

(*b*) The service of the hospital is furnished largely free of charge. There is an outpatient department, in which 26,569 persons were treated in 1936, a general hospital which had 3,134 admissions, a lunatic asylum, infirmary, dental clinic, venereal and gynaecological clinic.

(*c*) There are well equipped X-ray and bacteriological laboratories.

The total cost per patient at the Bahamas General Hospital is 3s. 10d. per day (the lowest on record).

The following is a table of the principal groups of diseases treated at the Bahamas General Hospital during the year, together with the mortality arising from these diseases:—

Disease.	*Number of cases.*	*Number of deaths.*
Typhoid fever	20	3
Tuberculosis	114	47
Venereal diseases	718	21
Pellagra	39	7
Diseases of the heart	50	13
Diarrhoea and enteritis under two years	31	5
Puerperal eclampsia	2	1
Diseases of infancy	26	1

The above diseases occurred chiefly among the wage-earning population.

The Out Islands are served medically by three Government District Medical Officers, who are stationed at the larger and more important islands, but who tour the other settlements at intervals. Licensed midwives and unqualified medical practitioners assist in dispensing medical aid.

Leprosy.—There is a leper colony which has fifteen inmates, situated in the Pine Barrens, which is a considerable distance from the inhabited parts of New Providence.

Child Welfare.—

(*a*) Midwives are given six months' training at the Bahamas General Hospital, and then sent back to the various Out Islands.

(*b*) Infant welfare clinics are held tri-weekly in New Providence. These are attended by a private practitioner. A full time specially qualified welfare nurse is employed to supervise these clinics and do house-to-house visiting.

Digitized by Google

The last three months of each undergraduate nurse's course (four years) at the Hospital are devoted to Child Welfare work under the guidance of the Welfare Nurse-in-charge.

(*c*) There is an ante-natal clinic conducted by the Roman Catholic Sisters of Charity.

(*d*) There is a small " Good Will Centre " for girls supported by public subscription.

(*e*) The Government conducts a Boys' Industrial School of some 50 boys.

Sanitation.

(*a*) The policies of the Health Board are carried out by a Chief Sanitary Inspector who holds a qualification from the Royal Sanitary Institute. There are four sanitary inspectors for New Providence, and in the Out Islands there are local Boards of Health with the Island Commissioner usually acting as chairman.

(*b*) Chlorinated city water is examined bacteriologically once a week, and increasing numbers of houses are being connected to the system. The old open wells for supplying public drinking water have been done away with as far as possible, and public standpipes installed. Water-borne sewage is disposed of by the " activated sludge " process, and crude sewage is no longer discharged into the harbour to any extent.

(*c*) Both raw and pasteurized milk is sold, but a high standard of quality is insisted upon.

(*d*) Meat is inspected by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and the sale of food in the Public Market is supervised by a full-time officer.

(*e*) The sale of food is permitted only in licensed premises, and food handlers come up bi-annually for medical examination.

The Health Department has continued to take care of street cleaning and garbage collection.

Co-operating with the Board of Pilotage, sand dredged from the harbour of Nassau has been made available to fill in low-lying areas, and a marked improvement in the drainage of the Pond District in Nassau has been effected thereby.

The general standard of hygiene in New Providence is quite good.

There are no estates, mines or factories in the Colony.

V.—HOUSING.

Wage-earners are found almost only in Nassau. Their housing consists principally of wooden two- or three-roomed structures with separate outside kitchen and pit-latrine, and devoid of other sanitary installations. Water in Nassau is now supplied almost exclusively from public drinking fountains (maintained from public funds), connected with the City's pure water supply.

Digitized by Google

Some houses are owned by the occupants; others are rented, the rate being 4s. to 8s. a week. Such houses are invariably built on separate plots, so that there is no crowding of houses and there are no slum areas.

The most urgent need is the replacement of numerous dwellings which are of such poor construction that they are incapable of withstanding hurricane winds of any great velocity. In an effort to improve on this condition, over 100 houses of special hurricane-proof design were built at public expense in replacement of houses destroyed in the hurricane of September, 1929. The cost of these houses, varying from £45 to £75, was made recoverable by weekly payments to be spread over four years, and it was hoped that the receipts would be available for further construction of houses for the wage-earning class, but the collection of instalments has proved difficult, and the scheme as originally contemplated cannot be developed until a substantial proportion of the capital outlay has been recovered.

No building societies exist in the Colony.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The natural resources of the Colony are marine, agricultural, and forest products. Except for forest exploitation on Abaco Island, production is conducted individually, there being neither factories, plantations, nor mines anywhere in the Colony.

Of the products of the Colony, sponge, crawfish, tomatoes, shell, salt and timber are exported, other commodities are at the present time produced only for local consumption.

No actual distinction exists between cultivation or other forms of production by persons of European and non-European descent. The former are principally engaged in commerce and the latter mainly in production; but persons of both races may be found engaged in one or the other of these pursuits, and such limited agricultural employment as exists is not restricted entirely to one race.

The following table shows the number of acres of various crops under cultivation, and the quantity of live stock in the Colony:—

Crops.	*Acres.*	*Live stock.*	*Number.*
Citrus	400	Horses	2,300
Coconuts	500	Horned cattle	2,650
Onions	100	Sheep	19,925
Pineapples	35	Goats	11,282
Sisal	5,148	Swine	6,080
Tomatoes	940	Poultry	34,900
Other products	16,950		
Total	24,073	Total	77,137

Digitized by Google

Sponge.—The sponge industry was once one of the major industries of the Colony, but during past years due to depletion of sponge beds by hurricanes, and lack of conservation of the young sponges by the sponge fishers, the industry has been adversely affected to a serious extent. During 1936 a sum of £6,000 was made available by the Colonial Development Fund for the rehabilitation of the sponge industry, and the Bahamas Government is contributing toward this effort to re-establish the industry.

It is estimated that about 160 offshore vessels were fitted out in October, 1936, with the addition of about 20 in the New Year. The number of inshore boats varies considerably. The Commissioner at Abaco estimates about 180 in his district and the Commissioner at Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera, reports about 52. No other information is available.

The Rules of the Agricultural and Marine Products Board relating to the Sponge Industry are under review, and the position of sponge planters is being clarified.

It is hoped that room for a New Sponge Exchange will be available on land now being reclaimed from the harbour near Armstrong Street in Nassau; meanwhile the trade is taking steps to form an Association in order to be able to record the opinion of the trade as a whole on questions of general interest to the industry, and in order to be in a position to negotiate for a loan for the New Exchange.

The ultimate aim of scientific investigations when applied to an industry is to gain knowledge upon which a rational exploitation of that industry can be based.

This may take the form, in the case of the sponge industry, of temporary closure of certain grounds, seasonal closure of all grounds, the imposition of size limits, the introduction of new methods and the centralizing of marketing facilities.

Certain areas where the evidence of over-fishing and hurricane damage have already been only too clear have been closed to enable the stocks to recover. When the grounds have been nursed back to a better state of productivity, it should be possible to maintain them in that condition by a re-adjustment of the size limits and by occasional closures.

In regard to research, one approach which presents itself is the investigation of the living sponge, its biology and variety, its mode of reproduction and growth rate, its food and environmental controls, its abundance and distribution. This work will entail a survey of the fishing grounds; observational work to ascertain the breeding season, length of life and behaviour of the larva; analysis of the sea water and an estimate of its suspended food stuff upon which the sponge lives and which varies from place to place.

A laboratory has been built and equipped over the carpenter's shop at the Board of Works, and a research vessel to be named the " Basil Blackett " is under construction in Nassau.

Digitized by Google

A field station has been established at Mastic Cay, Bight of Andros, where an extensive series of experiments on growth rate and environment have been started. Work on the other lines indicated above cannot yet be undertaken beyond the preliminary testing out of methods until the research vessel becomes available.

With regard to the methods of preparation for the market the Department is examining the existing methods and will experiment with a view to their improvement.

It is hoped to institute a system of statistical returns before next season which will enable those interested to follow the landings of sponge from month to month, the prices fetched by the different varieties, the number of vessels, boats and men employed, and the amount and value of sponge from the various fishing grounds. From the study of these statistical returns, evidence will be obtained as to the relative value of the fishery on the various grounds; and from a year to year comparison of landings, useful information regarding questions of over-fishing, effect of the closure of areas, and other points of interest can be derived.

Such a scheme will only become workable with the active co-operation of those engaged in the industry with whom close relations have already been established by the Sponge Fishery Investigations Department.

The Department has been engaged with the evolution of methods of sponge cultivation under commercial conditions. Having established depots at salient points in the Bight of Andros (which has been closed to commercial fishing) work is proceeding over the whole area, testing the suitability of the various creeks and channels for sponge planting. The experience and knowledge gained, whether of methods or of sites will be placed at the disposal of newcomers to the field of sponge planting, and it is hoped to build up a reserve stock of sponge of proved value from which planting enterprises in the area may be supplied at reasonable cost. There are already six enterprises operating in the Bight area, two in North Andros, two or three in Abaco and one in Exuma. One North Bight planter has been able to test the market with his cultivated sponge, with distinctly encouraging results.

The sales of sponge on the Nassau Sponge Exchange for the year 1936 were as follows:—

	Jan.—June.	*Oct.—Dec.*	*Total.*
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wool and Velvet ...	26,736 10 5	7,480 0 8	34,216 11 1
Grass	6,827 13 6	3,097 4 10	9,924 18 4
Reef	3,607 10 4	1,572 6 2	5,179 16 6
Yellow and Hardhead ...	3,119 19 2	766 14 1	3,886 13 3
Total—1936	£40,291 13 5	£12,916 5 9	£53,207 19 2

Digitized by Google

Comparison of sales over the last three years is of interest:—

	£	s.	d.
1934	51,089	10	2
1235	37,954	1	7
1936	53,207	19	2

The decline in 1935 was due to a fall in quality and quantity of sponge landings from the " Mud ", coupled with low prices due to depression on foreign markets.

Month to month returns show that the recovery in 1936 has been due to better prices, the opening of the Abaco Bight in November, 1935, after the 18 months' closure which had markedly beneficial effects, and the increased landings from the Current, Eleuthera, Exuma and other grounds, particularly in June and November.

Landings from the Andros grounds have declined little as compared with 1935 in spite of the closure of the Northern Mud. Vessels have been exploiting new grounds to the South of Andros.

Salt.—Coarse salt was formerly won in considerable quantities from salt-ponds in several islands. Efforts are now being made to revive the trade and to produce a cleaner grade of salt which will sell more readily than the quality hitherto produced.

Fisheries.—Fish abound in the Bahamas, but normally only sufficient are caught for local consumption, there being little attempt at export.

Crawfish have always been plentiful in these waters, and have been used for supplying the local market, but during the past few years, owing to the scarcity of crawfish at the Florida Cays, the American market has turned to the Bahamas, and during the past year a large quantity of crawfish was exported in the shell to Florida. In the period from October to December, 322,274 lb. were exported at the value of £1,627. The Royalty collected on this amount totalled £331. The industry is being carefully controlled and safeguarded by the Government, so as to avoid any serious depletion of the crawfish beds.

Sisal.—Sisal production, once the premier industry of the Colony, became practically extinct, but during the year there was a temporary revival of the sisal market in the United States, which enabled merchants to dispose of the bulk of their accumulated stocks. One thousand four hundred and eighty-seven tons were exported at an estimated value of £15,007. Revised Regulations were issued which required sisal buyers to be licensed, and the production, grading and packing of sisal is required to conform to the standards fixed by the Agricultural Board.

Digitized by Google

Agriculture.—The rocky nature of the land and the paucity of the soil in the Bahamas unquestionably present difficulties in the way of peasant farming. Nevertheless, the islands have in the past been highly productive of sub-tropical cultivations, and in years gone by a lively export trade existed. The present unproductive condition is manifestly due less to natural factors than to modern conditions which have attracted the peasants from the land.

On the Out Islands the people have always, on small farms, grown sufficient produce for their own needs. In Nassau, however, it has been necessary to import large quantities of fruit and vegetables.

During the past few years the Government has tried to encourage a greater interest in agriculture. Agricultural instructors have been placed at various islands and seed distributed free of charge. In an effort to foster agriculture it was decided to open a Government Produce Exchange for the marketing of produce from the Out Islands. Local Farmers' Associations were formed, and it is hoped that the agricultural output will be greatly increased.

Tomatoes.—The principal cultivation at the present time is tomatoes. The Bahamas tomatoes are of the finest quality, and in the past have found a ready sale on the New York market, where they can be placed somewhat earlier than Florida produce. The imposition of a higher tariff, coupled with competition from Cuba and Mexico, so severely handicaps Bahamas produce that exportation to New York has now ceased; but exportation to Canada was developed in 1931, and the trade has been diverted from New York to Montreal and Halifax.

It is difficult to assess the number of persons engaged in agriculture. Practically everyone not engaged in commerce cultivates in a small way for his own needs. On the other hand, comparatively few live solely by cultivation of the soil.

Citrus.—Down to the early years of the present century considerable quantities of citrus fruits were exported. The industry then met with keen competition from Florida, and was finally ruined by infestation by the Blue Grey Fly pest. The fly, however, is now well under control and very successful efforts have been made in recent years to restore the cultivation of citrus. There is every prospect of the production in the near future being more than sufficient to meet local requirements.

Stock and poultry.—Stock and poultry raising is conducted on a very limited scale for local consumption, but is hardly sufficient to supply the local demand.

Digitized by Google

Export of local produce.—The following table gives the quantity and value of each of the principal articles of local produce exported from the Colony during the past five years:—

		1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Cascarilla bark ...	lb.	24,528	27,388	48,944	49,056	31,360
	£	1,464	946	1,644	1,466	864
Tomatoes, raw ...	m. bushels	165	120	112	106	105
	£	75,311	26,451	20,444	26,064	27,610
Sisal hemp ...	tons	81	22	158	607	1,487
	£	484	162	1,371	3,709	15,007
Abaco pine timber	m. feet	5,466	4,347	1,649	2,861	1,992
	£	26,799	22,724	7,403	14,938	11,455
Woods, other ...	tons	51	130	30	226	123
	£	261	605	120	820	477
Shell, tortoise ...	lb.	5,524	3,622	6,543	6,290	4,813
	£	6,677	3,510	6,782	4,610	3,042
Shell, conch ...	no.	38,603	34,653	84,567	66,000	56,739
		281	196	343	339	242
Sponge	m. lb.	683	864	679	745	697
	£	77,992	84,562	58,250	51,954	54,912
Salt	m. bushels	7	79	88	15	—
	£	126	765	1,087	193	—

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total value of the Colony's trade during the last five years was as follows:—

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports	940,063	929,731	728,299	718,215	967,040
Exports	263,886	180,151	202,480	125,428	139,333
Total (excluding specie) ...	1,203,949	1,109,882	930,779	843,643	1,106,373

The values of imports from the three principal countries of origin for the same period were as follows:—

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£	£
Great Britain ...	228,336	251,294	182,531	169,866	238,084
Canada	221,444	261,558	135,100	98,949	130,231
United States of America ...	334,501	259,935	267,773	317,612	415,161

Digitized by Google

The values of the principal classes of articles imported were as follows:—

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£	£
Spirits	275,926	333,408	146,302	56,918	55,509
Wines	14,226	13,755	12,695	5,862	6,508
Cordials and liqueurs ...	4,670	4,139	3,324	2,192	3,550
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	17,336	13,429	12,442	13,374	16,707
Food-stuffs ...	240,569	227,204	187,828	219,954	276,414
Lumber and shingles ...	12,239	14,671	15,822	16,864	33,190
Boots and shoes	13,586	13,886	12,541	12,563	15,153
Cotton manufactures ...	34,559	26,868	30,469	35,450	39,069
Metals, iron and steel. Manufactures of ...	7,089	5,864	11,142	6,964	13,817
Oils	39,018	32,419	32,022	20,661	20,641
Motor cars, trucks and parts ...	7,345	15,235	19,253	29,659	40,543

The principal exports of local produce were:—

	Quantities.	*Value.*
		£
Tomatoes (m. bush)	105	27,610
Cascarilla bark (cwt.)	280	864
Lumber (m. feet)	1,992	11,455
Tortoise shell (lb.)	4,813	3,042
Sponge (m. lb.)	697	54,912

Of these products, cascarilla bark was exported to the United States of America and the United Kingdom, tomatoes to Canada, and tortoise shell to the United Kingdom. The lumber export was to Jamaica and Bermuda. Sponge was exported to several countries of Europe, and to the United States of America, Canada and Japan, the major portion going to the United States of America, the United Kingdom and Holland.

Trade with the United Kingdom and Canada has increased substantially since the coming into operation of Preferential Tariff Agreements. During the year under review 23 per cent. of the total value of our imports was from the United Kingdom and 17 per cent. from Canada. A large proportion of the freight here represented is trans-shipped through New York, the only direct freight service being by the Royal Mail Steamers once a month and these usually take three weeks to make the voyage out. It is not surprising, therefore, that with New York but three days away by steamer, and Florida within one day that the United States of America still enjoys 43 per cent. of our import trade.

Digitized by Google

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

No material change in wages took place during the year, and the following are the wages paid to Government employees during a working week of five days:—

	Per day. (*Shillings.*)
Blacksmiths	17
Carpenters	8 to 10
Labourers	3 to 5½
Masons	6 to 8
Painters	4 to 6
Plumbers	6 to 10
Truck drivers	6 to 7

Government and private employees usually work 8¼ hours a day. Cooks and housemaids receive 10s. to 20s. per week, and work about 10 hours a day. Labourers employed in industries or by private persons receive wages ranging from 2s. to 4s. a day.

The labourer's staple articles of diet are flour, fish, hominy, meal, and sugar, and he spends about 9d. a day on his food. He can obtain lodging for about 4s. a week. He is saved the expense of educating his children or providing medical treatment, as both these are furnished by the Government without cost to him.

Average cost of living for officials.—The cost of living in New Providence is high. The tariff in the first-class hotels varies from £2 per day to £4 per day inclusive during the winter season, and in the smaller hotels the tariff during the same period is approximately £2 per day inclusive. During the period May to November inclusive, accommodation may be obtained in the smaller hotels for approximately £1 4s. per day. A single man might be able to live in a small hotel or boarding house for £5 a week throughout the year, in which case his total expenses should not exceed £400 a year.

A furnished bungalow could be obtained for about £150 a year, in which case a married couple, without children, should be able to live on about £600 a year. Unfurnished bungalows can be obtained for about £100 a year.

In the Out Islands there are no hotels or boarding houses, and suitable bungalows would be difficult to obtain.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education.

Primary Education is compulsory for children between the ages of six and fourteen years of age, and is provided at public expense under the direction of the Board of Education. The

Digitized by Google

total amount expended by the Board of Education during 1936 was £17,553, giving an average cost per pupil on the total roll for the year of £1 9s. 11d.

The Board maintained 55 schools, and grants-in-aid were paid to 62 schools. The total roll was 11,735. In addition to these schools which are directly under the control of the Board of Education, there are 39 denominational schools with a total roll of over 2,000 pupils and a number of private schools with nearly 400 pupils. Owing to the scattered population, this relatively large number of schools is not entirely adequate. A number of children are out of the reach of any school, and in some localities attendance at school entails a certain amount of hardship on young children.

In conformity with the agricultural policy of the Government, prominence has been given in all Board schools to agricultural training. This is becoming an outstanding feature of education in the Bahamas. Sewing lessons for girl pupils have been introduced in a number of schools, and two centres for cooking classes for girls and two for woodwork classes for boys have been established in Nassau. Six teachers were sent to the Summer School at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, U.S.A., to study agriculture, domestic science and woodwork.

The Board employed 89 teachers (principal and assistant), among whom were six from other West Indian Colonies, and in addition 62 grant-in-aid teachers. The shortage of qualified teachers within the Colony has proved a great handicap to education, and it was partly with a view to improvement in this direction that a Government High School was established some years ago. Secondary education is otherwise afforded in schools maintained by several religious bodies, which are assisted by grants-in-aid from the Government, provided that they meet the requirements laid down in the Secondary Education Act.

Welfare Institutions.

An infirmary, and lunatic and leper asylums, the inmates of which are admitted free of charge, are maintained by the Government, and are under the management of the Bahamas General Hospital. Free medical treatment is also afforded to those unable to pay for it, and free rations were issued to 564 paupers in the Colony during the year 1936. The Infant Welfare Department of the Bahamas General Hospital and the pre-natal clinic likewise provide free advice and treatment. The Dundas Civic Centre, which receives a Government subsidy, is supplying a long-felt want by training cooks, housemaids, and hotel waiters, and is affording general household training to others not engaged in domestic service.

There are certain charitable organizations in the Colony, but the native population largely provides for sickness and death insurance by membership of one of the many friendly societies

Digitized by Google

existing in the Colony. There is no compulsory insurance in effect in the Bahamas. In New Providence there are several recreation grounds where rugby and association football, polo, cricket, and other games are freely indulged in. There are five cinema theatres, two of which give nightly performances.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

During the year, 1936, 2,372 steamers and sailing vessels, of a total tonnage of 3,323,623, entered and cleared the ports of the Colony. Of this number 1,053 vessels with a total tonnage of 2,997,255 called at Nassau. Regular monthly services of cargo vessels from England are maintained by the Royal Mail Line. The Pacific Steam Navigation Company has inaugurated a service with this Colony, and during the year 23 calls were made at Nassau by ships of this line, which landed 229 and embarked 190 passengers. This service fulfils a long-felt want for direct communication with the United Kingdom at a moderate cost, and by comfortable ships which perform the voyage within 14 days. During January to April a weekly passenger service between New York and Nassau is provided by the Cunard White Star Line, and the Clarke Steamship Line maintains a tri-weekly service with Miami, Florida. The Munson Steamship Company gives a fortnightly passenger and freight service from New York, embracing Nassau, Miami and Havana returning by the same route. The Canadian National Steamship vessels call at Nassau every two weeks en route from Montreal or Halifax via Bermuda to Jamaica, calling at Nassau on the return journey every alternate week; in the winter these vessels also call at Boston. A weekly service for carriage of fruit is maintained by the same line during the tomato season. This line is in receipt of a Government subsidy. The only other port at which there is any considerable shipping is Inagua, where 145 vessels of 149,784 tons have entered. Steamers of a Dutch line call at this port to embark stevedores to work cargoes at South American ports. During the tourist season from November to April numerous large cruise vessels call at Nassau.

Roads.

All the main roads are surfaced with bitumen and due to the general improvement in recent years motor vehicles have increased to 1,313. The Out Island roads are the usual rock surfaced roads adequate for the rare wheeled traffic. In Eleuthera the road is 70 miles long, and Long Island has a similar road. These roads have materially assisted the agricultural development of these islands.

Digitized by Google

Post Office.

During the year 1936 the work of the Post Office was larger than 1935, there being an increase in the receipts over 1935 of £3,792.

There is a direct mail service to Bermuda, Canada and Jamaica every fortnight by the ships of the Canadian National Steamship Company.

During the period between the 1st January and the 30th April there is a daily Air Mail service between Miami, Fla., and Nassau, the balance of the year the service being on Mondays and Fridays. The service is performed by the planes of the Pan American Airways Incorporated.

Besides the above service there is a weekly mail service during the winter season from New York by the Cunard White Star Liner *Carinthia* and throughout the year a fortnightly service from New York by the Munson Steamship Line steamer *Munargo*. In addition there is frequent communication with Miami, Fla. by various motor vessels throughout the year.

Telegraphs.

Telegraph communication is effected by wireless service, maintained and operated by the Bahamas Government, consisting of a central station at Nassau, with 20 stations on the other islands of the Bahamas group.

The Nassau W/T station maintains continuous watch on:— 500 kc/sec (600 m.), with an alternate working frequency of 438 kc/sec (685 m.), c.w. slightly modulated. From 35 minutes to 45 minutes past each hour a watch is kept on 143 kc/sec (2,100 m.).

From the hour to 10 minutes past each hour 7.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. a watch is kept on 12,500 kc/sec (24 m.) and at the hour to 10 minutes past, 7.00 p.m. to 7.00 a.m., on 8,333 kc/sec (36 m.).

High frequency communications on point-to-point service are maintained continuously with Hialeah, Fla., on 3,334 kc/sec (89·98 m.) 4,260 kc/sec (70 m.) and 5,769 kc/sec (52 m.), and during the winter months January to April, with the same station for stock brokerage service on 5,085 kc/sec (59 m.) and 3,216 kc/sec (93·20 m.).

With Kingston, Jamaica, daily from 7.45 a.m. to 6.45 p.m. each hour at 45 minutes past on 8,135 kc/sec (36·88 m.), with two emergency schedules at 10.15 p.m. and 3.30 a.m. on 500 kc/sec (600 m.) and 143 kc/sec (2,100 m.) respectively.

High frequency transmitters and receivers have also been supplied to all the Out Island W/T stations and operate a fixed service with Nassau and each other on 5,300 kc/sec

Digitized by Google

(56·6 m.), in addition the stations at Clarence Town, Long Island, Bimini, Cat Cay and San Salvador are fitted with the alternate frequency of 3,125 kc/sec (96 m.). The Out Island station at Inagua is also equipped for marine work on 500 kc/sec (600 m.) with the alternate frequency of 438 kc/sec (685 m.) CW or ICW, however no fixed hours of watch are maintained on this frequency.

Overseas Telephone communication is maintained on a frequency of 4,512 kc/sec (66·44 m.) from Nassau connecting through the Hialeah, Fla., telephone terminal to all points in the United States, Canada, Cuba, Mexico, South America, Hawaii, the Phillipine Islands, Great Britain, Europe and other countries as well as to vessels at sea so equipped. This circuit is maintained between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. daily with extended hours during the months of the winter season.

All times quoted in this report are Eastern Standard, five hours slow on Greenwich Mean Time.

The Out Island stations have proved of great benefit to the industries and inhabitants of these islands, and are very useful for administrative and police purposes, and the dissemination of storm warnings.

Telephones.

In Nassau there is a manually operated system owned and operated by the Bahamas Government with 1,067 subscribers. Of the other islands of the Bahamas group, Eleuthera has some 40 miles of telephone line, Cat Island, 30 miles of line and Long Island 52 miles of line, connecting the principal settlements to the Wireless Stations of the islands in question.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

The only bank doing business in the Colony, apart from the Post Office Savings Bank, is the Nassau branch of the Royal Bank of Canada. For the year ended 30th November, 1936, it had deposits in the Colony amounting to £1,542,941.

Savings Bank.—The Savings Bank is being used to a much larger extent by the labouring classes than before, and there is a steady progress in the amount in deposits. During the year ended 30th June, 1936, there was an increase of 547 in the number of depositors and the balance due to the depositors showed an increase of £1,959 over 1935.

Currency.

The British Currency Act (Chapter 159) declares British sterling to be the money of account, and requires all accounts to be kept in sterling. £73,400 in local Government currency

Digitized by Google

notes of 4s., 10s. and £1 denominations is in circulation in the Colony, in addition to about £24,000 in British silver coin. United States currency is not legal tender in the Colony but gold and silver certificates are accepted at rates based on the rate of sterling in New York on the day of negotiation. These certificates are in circulation particularly during the winter owing to the presence of American visitors.

The Note Security Fund held by the Commissioners of Currency on 31st December, 1936, was valued at £88,986 7s. 9d. and the Depreciation Fund at £10,378 13s. 0d. For the same period the Commissioners showed an excess of £2,655 2s. 10d. in receipts over expenditure, which was paid into General Revenue.

The Currency Note Act, 1936, which came into operation on the 1st November, 1936, declares currency notes issued under the Act to be legal tender in the Colony, and that they shall be deemed to be current coin of the Colony.

Under the Proclamation of His Majesty in Council of the 27th October, 1936, silver coins of the United Kingdom ceased to be legal tender in the Colony for payment of any amount exceeding 40s., with effect from the 1st November, 1936.

Weights and Measures.

By the Weights and Measures Act (Chapter 172) weights and measures are fixed at the standard of those used in England previous to the introduction of Imperial weights and measures. Imperial weights and measures are used, however, in the collection of duties on imports.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department superintends the construction and maintenance of all public works, which includes:—

Water Works.—Recovery, Distribution and Administration.

Sewerage.—Collection, Disposal and Administration.

Lighthouses.—For local Out Islands navigation, the Department built and maintains 27 Gas Automatic lighthouses, and also 38 oil lights of purely local interest.

Inspection and control of building.—Plans of all private buildings and sanitary arrangements are controlled by the Department.

Maintenance.—Public parks, gardens, public areas, forts, including nursery which also sells plants to private individuals: public buildings, wharfs, sheds, markets, drains, abutments, etc.: all Out Island public works, including wharfs, buildings, roads and any improvements required from time to time: construction and upkeep of roads, paths, etc., in New Providence, and also some of the Out Island roads.

Digitized by Google

The Department carries out the above duties on behalf of the Board of Public Works, which consists of five members appointed by the Governor, and all funds are voted annually by the Legislature. The Department also supervises and carries out work for other Departments when necessary.

The expenditure is £32,350 for fiscal period of nine months in 1936, being mainly for maintenance, the Out Islands reconstruction and other Public Works proceeded with.

The Water Works is expanding rapidly, the water output being 87 millions of gallons, an increase of 20 per cent. over the previous year. To meet the extensive development of building, the water mains were extended to a point 5¼ miles East and 6 miles West of the city, involving the laying of over 9 miles of cast iron pipes. To meet this extra demand for water, 3,000 feet of shallow trenches were dug to collect water for distribution, and a new reservoir has been constructed to hold 500,000 gallons of water to meet abnormal demands for water and to prevent excessive rates of pumping from the wells, also serving as settling tank after lime soda treatment. A number of windmills are being used to recover water in inaccessible places and these have proved to be very satisfactory over a period of three years, and produce nearly 25 per cent. of the water supplied. A new area with sufficient equipment to meet the yearly increase as required is being investigated to relieve the present producing area.

Due to reductions in the cost of the new water connections and the rapid rate of building, the number of new connections have been 137, making in all 1,180 or three times the normal increase. The old galvanised and wrought iron pipes used since 1928 and already badly corroded, are now being replaced by cast iron and some 1,200 yards are to be replaced this year.

The sewers and sub-pumping stations have been altered and improved to meet the increase in sewage. A new pump was added to Station No. 3 to ensure the removal of sewage greatly increased by having the Colonial Hotel connected and the majority of some 39 new connections and extensions to old connections.

The disposal plant continues satisfactorily and steps were taken to remove the odours arising from the raw sewage in the sedimentation tanks. This consists of a covering over the tanks and the gases are removed by an exhausting fan and passed through a furnace. The method is satisfactory and inexpensive and may be extended to other places if required.

The water and sewerage systems are now factors in the production of revenue.

Inspection of Buildings.—The Board exercises rigid control of all construction in order that no abnormal or faulty construction takes place to spoil the general appearance of the

Digitized by Google

Island. The results are very gratifying. The control of sanitation and plumbers, etc., is enforced to ensure proper work according to modern standards.

Public Buildings.—The existing administration and Public Buildings are inadequate for present needs, and will require extensions in the near future.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

Law.—The Law of the Colony is:—

(*a*) The Common Law of England as it existed at the time of the settlement and subject to the exceptions mentioned in the Declaratory Act (Chapter 7. Statutes. Revised Edition, 1929).

(*b*) Statutes of the Imperial Parliament specifically applied to the Colony by enactment of the Local Legislature.

(*c*) Statutes of the Colony's Legislature.

Courts.—There is a Supreme Court of the Colony which sits in Nassau, is presided over by a Chief Justice, and has the jurisdiction of a High Court of Justice in England. An appeal, in civil matters, lies from the Supreme Court to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. The Supreme Courts sits throughout the year as occasion requires, but ordinary Sessions are held quarterly for the disposal of Criminal Informations and of Civil actions, listed for trial by Jury. In 1936 the number of cases listed in the Supreme Court were, Criminal 42, Civil 86.

The principal Magisterial Court of the Colony is that of the Stipendiary and Circuit Magistrate, who is stationed in Nassau, and appeals from his Court lie to the Supreme Court. Additionally, magisterial powers are exercised by the Commissioners in charge of Districts in the Out Islands, and by Justices of the Peace, and appeals from such Courts lie to the Stipendiary and Circuit Magistrate, and to the Registrar General, who annually go on circuit among the Out Islands, to hear such appeals and dispose of cases triable only, in original jurisdiction, by a Circuit Justice. The Stipendiary and Circuit Magistrate, Commissioners, and, where so empowered, Justices of the Peace, are also responsible for the conduct in Court of preliminary inquiries into indictable offences triable by the Supreme Court.

Payment of fines by instalments is permitted in suitable cases, but the necessity seldom arises. The Penal Code provides for placing offenders on probation, but there are no regular probation officers, and it has been found that the practice of binding over of adult offenders on their own recognizances is sufficiently effective.

Digitized by Google

The following is a table of the persons dealt with in Summary Courts for crimes and offences during the year 1936:—

Imprisoned	232
Whipped (Juveniles)	127
Fined	1,100
Bound over or otherwise disposed of	851
Discharged	253
Committed for trial in Supreme Court	38

Police.

A Police Force was established in the Bahama Islands in 1864 by an Act of Legislature.

The Force consists of four European Officers, a Sergeant Major and 124 other ranks. The number of other ranks is temporarily reduced by seven owing to economy. The Headquarters of the Bahamas Police Force is in Nassau, in the Island of New Providence. One police constable and a number of local and district constables are stationed and responsible for the policing of the Out Islands.

The Force is also the Fire Brigade for the Island of New Providence. It is equipped with five motor engines, the personnel for which are constables trained as firemen.

The Bahamas Police Force is a semi-military body, there being no Imperial or Defence Force. The Force is armed with S.M.L.E. rifles and also in possession of two 3-pounder Hotchkiss guns, also two Maxim machine-guns.

All guards and sentries are furnished by the Police Force. A Police Band consisting of 16 instruments is also maintained.

The men of the Bahamas Police Force are recruited from the various Bahama Islands, Jamaica and Barbados. During 1936 several men were recruited for service in this Police Force from Barbados.

Prisons.

There are official " lock-ups " in all Out Island districts, but all prisoners sentenced to terms exceeding three months are sent to the central prison in Nassau, which has single cell accommodation for 102 male and 16 female prisoners.

The health of the prisoners during the year was very good on the whole, the main diseases occurring amongst the prisoners being pulmonary, venereal, and skin diseases, and constipation.

There is no separate provision for juveniles in the central prison, but this class of male offender is committed to the Industrial School, a reformatory managed by a Visiting Committee, where agriculture and other crafts are taught in conjunction with elementary schooling.

Digitized by Google

The daily average of prisoners in the Nassau Prison during 1936 was 124.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

A total of 41 Acts were passed by the Legislature during the year 1936, of which the following are the more important:—

1. *The Tariff Act,* 1936, consolidating the law regarding tariffs in the Colony.

2. *The Savings Bank Act,* 1936, which adopted, as legislation for the Colony, a model Act relating to Savings Banks which was prepared by the direction of the Secretary of State to promote uniformity in legislation on this subject throughout the Colonies.

3. *The Juvenile Offenders Act,* 1936, which establishes within the Colony legislation based on the model legislation intended for use throughout the Colonies.

4. *The Labour Minimum Wage Act,* 1936.—This Act was passed with the primary object of giving effect, in so far as local conditions within the Colony will permit, to the Convention adopted by the International Labour Conference which was held at Geneva in 1928. The Act empowers the Governor-in-Council to appoint Advisory Boards and upon the advice of such a Board the Governor-in-Council may fix a minimum wage in respect of any occupation in which the rate of wage paid is unreasonably low.

5. *The Harbour Dues Act* consolidating the law of the Colony relating to Harbour Dues and providing greater elasticity in the form of this legislation.

6. *The Reclamation and Drainage Act,* 1936, which was passed to enable action to be taken to improve the condition of areas within the Colony which are in an unsightly, swampy and unsanitary condition. The Act provides that upon an area being declared by the Governor-in-Council to be a reclamation area, the owner of any such area may be required to reclaim it. The Government itself doing the work, however, in the event of the owner being unable or unwilling to do so, and in such an event consequent expense to the Government would be recoverable under the provisions of the Act.

7. *The Currency Note Act,* 1936, which provides for the direct link of the currency of the Colony with the " Sterling exchange standard ". The Act is based on an Ordinance which serves as a model for legislation of this nature in other Colonies.

Digitized by Google

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The totals of revenue and expenditure for the last five years are as follows:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1931-32	386,374	422,706
1932-33	352,160	326,238
1933-34	338,061	310,381
1934-35	277,544	276,961
1935-36	297,568	288,969
	1,651,707	1,625,255

The actual excess of revenue over expenditure for this period was £26,452.

The Public Debt on the 31st March, 1936, amounted to £155,400 which sum represented a loan of £150,000 raised locally by sale of debentures issued under The Hotel Loan Act, 1924, and the unredeemed portion of a loan of £30,000 raised in 1915, which latter loan was entirely redeemed on 1st April, 1936. Provision is made for the redemption of the 1924 loan by annual contributions from the revenue to a Sinking Fund, which amounted on the 31st March, 1936, to £31,373 market value of the securities.

Investments in England in Trustee Securities, bearing interest at approximately 4½ per cent., and amounting at the end of the financial year to £260,277 market value, represent the liquid assets of the Colony. Other principal assets are represented by loans to two hotels to the sum of £647,000 secured by mortgages on the hotels.

Apart from Real Property Tax, which yielded £5,645 during the year, including collections of certain arrears in respect of previous years, there is no direct taxation. The revenue is mainly derived from the following sources:—

	Estimate nine months 1936.
	£
Customs	106,427
Port, wharf and harbour dues	11,450
Licences and internal revenue	11,139
Fees of Court, etc.	17,435
Posts and telegraphs	19,585
Interest	15,550
Electric power receipts	24,645

An excise duty of 6d. a hundred is imposed on cigarettes, but with this exception no excise duties are levied. Stamp duties are imposed on instruments used in civil proceedings in the Supreme Court or in commercial or other transactions, and are based on the value of the transaction.

The Tariff Amendment Act, assented to on the 19th December, 1932, provides a customs revenue of 20 per cent.

Digitized by Google

ad valorem on most imports, though there are some items specifically taxed, while alcoholic beverages and tobacco pay a much higher rate.

A sliding scale on agricultural products devised to protect articles capable of production in the Colony is included. There is an export tax on pineapple and sisal plants, wrecked goods, and articles imported for a temporary purpose and exempted from duty under certain conditions. Chief among the exemptions from duty are printed books, flying machines, and essentials to agriculture and to the manufacture of native products. A list of prohibited imports injurious to health and morals is included.

The Imperial Preference Act was repealed during the year 1932, and a new tariff enacted to accord to British goods such preferences as were provided for under the terms of the Ottawa Agreement. By this Act a preference of 50 per cent. is accorded to British importations; specific exceptions to this general preference are, however, included.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Official.

His Excellency the Honourable Sir Bede E. H. Clifford, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.V.O., Governor, at the invitation of the President of the United States of America, proceeded on the 29th April to Washington where he and Lady Clifford were the guests of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt at the White House.

In June His Excellency accompanied the Naval Commander-in-Chief to Central America and the United States in H.M.S. *York*.

The Honourable J. H. Jarrett, K.C., Colonial Secretary, administered the Government on both occasions.

Visit of President of United States of America.

On the 31st March, the President of the United States of America came into the harbour of Nassau in the yacht *Potomac*.

Art show.—The Bahamian Art Show, which owes its inspiration and success to Lady Clifford, was held in the Church Hall, George Street, in February and March. There can be no doubt that this exhibition, which is held annually, is doing much to advertise Nassau.

Prison Commission appointed.—On the 2nd July, the Governor appointed a Commission " to enquire generally into the administration of the Nassau Prison: and particularly into the allegations appearing in the evidence given at the Coroner's Inquest into the death of one Noel Josephs, a prisoner, which occurred at the Nassau Prison on the 1st June, 1936 ".

The Commission held Sessions in July and August. Evidence was taken from Prison Officials and the Public.

Digitized by Google

The Commission, in its report, expressed satisfaction with the administration of the Nassau Prison including the treatment of prisoners.

The Commission unanimously reported that there was no evidence which they could accept in support of the allegations appearing in the evidence given at the Coroner's Inquest to the effect that Noel Josephs suffered maltreatment prior to his death.

Crown Lands.—The amount collected during the year from rentals of Crown Lands amounted to £491 10s.

Tourists and Publicity.—The tourist traffic to Nassau has increased greatly in recent years, and during the Season of 1936—January to March—19,876 persons visited Nassau from the United States of America, Canada, and the United Kingdom, with a total of 46,732 for the year.

Nassau as a tourist resort is growing in popularity, and many prominent persons from the countries above mentioned have purchased property in Nassau or on adjacent islands and have built winter homes.

A publicity campaign was carried out by the Development Board with satisfactory results. Attractive folders were issued and widely circulated, numerous persons were communicated with personally, and striking advertisements were carried in the prominent publications of England, Canada and the United States of America.

Weather Conditions.—The Colony very fortunately escaped the ravages of hurricanes during the year, although a small storm passed over some of the islands on the 28th July, causing two deaths at Bimini.

Visits of His Majesty's Ships.—The following ships of His Majesty's West Indies Squadron visited the Colony during 1936:—

H.M.S. *York,* flying the flag of Vice-Admiral The Honourable Sir Matthew Best, Commander-in-Chief of the America and West Indies Station.
H.M.S *Scarborough.*
H.M.S. *Dragon.*
R.F.A. *Celerol.*
H.M.S. *Apollo.*

Visits of His Majesty's Canadian Ships.
H.M.C.S. *Saguenay.*
H.M.C.S. *Champlain.*

Visits of United States Ships.—The following ships of the United States Navy visited Nassau during 1936:—
U.S. Coastguard Cutter *Pandora.*
U.S. Coastguard Cutter *Vigilant.*
U.S. Submarine *Pike.*

Yachting.—The harbour of Nassau lends itself admirably to yachting and this sport is indulged in to a considerable extent by local and visiting yachtsmen.

Digitized by Google

In March, 1936, the annual regatta of the Royal Nassau Sailing Club was held, when the cup presented by His late Majesty King George V for Pirate Class Yachts was won by His Excellency the Governor in the *Malice Scourge*.

In March, 1936, the International Ocean Yacht Race took place, starting at Miami, Fla., and finishing at Nassau. This is an annual event for a trophy competed for by local and American yachts, and is keenly contested. The race was won by Mr. C. A. Hansen's *Water Witch*.

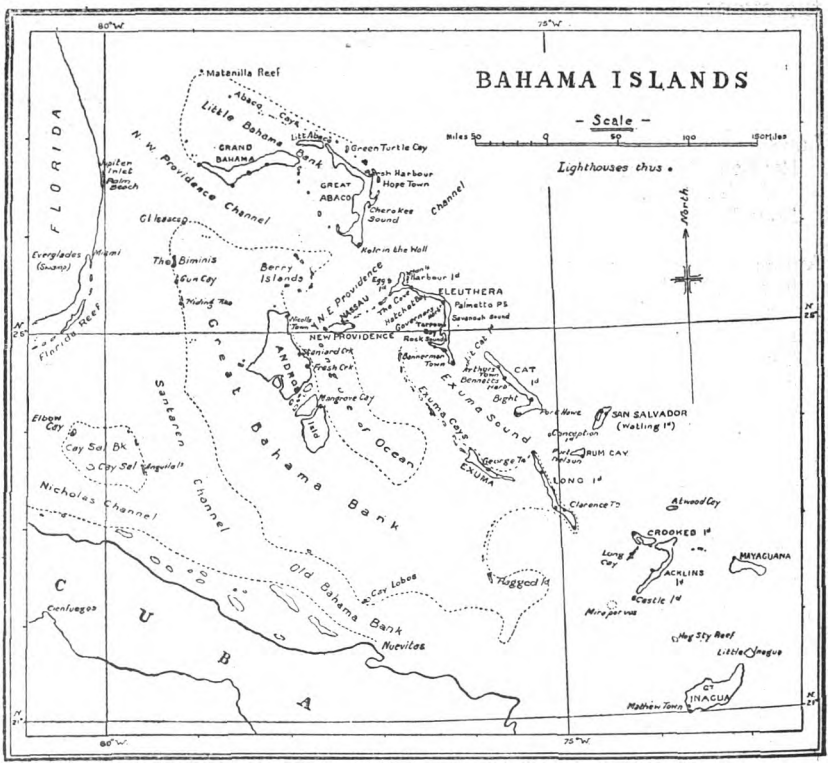
The United States Coastguard Cutters *Vigilant* and *Pandora* accompanied the yachts and offered every facility for promoting the event.

APPENDIX.

Bahamas Publications, etc.

Title.	*Price.*	*Agents for Sale.*
Laws :		The Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, Westminster, London. The Colonial Secretary, Nassau, N.P., Bahamas.
Revised Edition, volumes 1 and 2, Cloth bound.	2 guineas per volume.	
Bound half calf	3 guineas per volume.	
Annual volumes for years subsequent to 1928.	½d. per printed page.	
Single copies of Acts	,, ,,	
Rules, Regulations and Orders-in-Council.	,, ,,	
Blue Books	10s.	
Official Gazette	½d. per printed page. Annual subscription, 12s. 6d.	
Departmental Reports...	½d. per printed page.	
Census, 1931	2s.	
Atlas with maps of Bahama Islands...	10s.	
Bahamas Hand Book, 1926 (by Mary Moseley, M.B.E.).	10s.	
Public Health and Medical conditions in New Providence (by Sir Wilfred Beveridge, K.B.E., C.B., M.B., C.M. (Edin.) D.P.H. (Camb.) London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine).	10s.	
Law Report, Volume 1, 1900–1906 (Edited by Kenneth Solomon, K.C., Member of Bahamas Bar).	6s.	
Sand-fly Report, 1932 (by Dr. J. G. Myers, Sc.D., F.Z.S., F.E.S.).	9d.	Colonial Secretary, Nassau, N.P. Bahamas.
Memorandum on Agriculture in Bahamas (by Hon. Charles Dundas, C.M.G., O.B.E.).	2s.	
Memorandum on Historic Forts of Nassau (by Sir Bede E. H. Clifford, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.V.O.).	1s.	
Law Finder—A Guide to Legislation in force in the Bahama Islands on the 1st November, 1934 (by J. H. Jarrett, K.C.).	2s. 6d.	

Digitized by Google


BAHAMA ISLANDS
- Scale -
Miles 50 0 50 100 150 Statute Miles
Lighthouses thus •
North
80° W.
75° W.
FLORIDA
Matanilla Reef
Abaco Cays
Little Bahama Bank
GRAND BAHAMA
Little Abaco
Green Turtle Cay
N. W. Providence Channel
Jupiter Inlet
Palm Beach
GREAT ABACO
Marsh Harbour
Hope Town
Cherokee Sound
Channel
Gt Isaacs
Rock in the Wall
Everglades (Swamp)
Miami
The Biminis
Gun Cay
Berry Islands
N. E. Providence Channel
Egg I.
Harbour Id
ELEUTHERA
Palmetto Pt
Governor's Harbour
Tarpum Bay
Rock Sound
Hatchet Bay
Gregory Town
Savannah Sound
Current I.
Hatchet Bay Cut
Florida Reef
NASSAU
Hospital Point
Fort Charlotte
Fort Fincastle
Prince George Wharf
Government House
Parliament Square
Victoria Ave.
Bay St.
Cable Office
Post Office
Public Library
Police Station
Prison
Queen's Staircase
Fort Montagu
Nassau Harbour
Paradise I.
Paradise Beach
Cable Beach
Hotel
Golf Links
Aerodrome
Lake Killarney
Prospect Ridge
Blue Hill Road
Soldier Road
Windsor Field
Village Road
Shirley St.
Elizabeth Ave.
Chippingham
Fox Hill Road
Carmichael Road
Gambier Village
Gambier Hill
Gambier Creek
Gambier Bay
Gambier Point
Gambier Cay
Gambier Rock
Gambier Reef
Gambier Channel
Gambier Harbour
Gambier Anchorage
Gambier Mooring
Gambier Buoy
Gambier Light
Gambier Beacon
Gambier Signal
Gambier Station
Gambier Post
Gambier Office
Gambier Hotel
Gambier Restaurant
Gambier Bar
Gambier Club
Gambier Golf
Gambier Tennis
Gambier Swimming
Gambier Boating
Gambier Fishing
Gambier Sailing
Gambier Yacht
Gambier Marina
Gambier Dock
Gambier Pier
Gambier Wharf
Gambier Quay
Gambier Jetty
Gambier Breakwater
Gambier Seawall
Gambier Promenade
Gambier Esplanade
Gambier Boulevard
Gambier Avenue
Gambier Street
Gambier Road
Gambier Lane
Gambier Alley
Gambier Court
Gambier Square
Gambier Circle
Gambier Crescent
Gambier Terrace
Gambier Gardens
Gambier Park
Gambier Cemetery
Gambier Church
Gambier School
Gambier College
Gambier University
Gambier Hospital
Gambier Clinic
Gambier Dispensary
Gambier Pharmacy
Gambier Bank
Gambier Insurance
Gambier Agency
Gambier Company
Gambier Corporation
Gambier Limited
Gambier Incorporated
Gambier Trust
Gambier Estate
Gambier Property
Gambier Land
Gambier Real Estate
Gambier Development
Gambier Construction
Gambier Engineering
Gambier Architecture
Gambier Design
Gambier Planning
Gambier Survey
Gambier Map
Gambier Chart
Gambier Guide
Gambier Book
Gambier Publication
Gambier Press
Gambier Printing
Gambier Binding
Gambier Paper
Gambier Ink
Gambier Pen
Gambier Pencil
Gambier Eraser
Gambier Ruler
Gambier Compass
Gambier Protractor
Gambier Scale
Gambier Dividers
Gambier Calipers
Gambier Micrometer
Gambier Gauge
Gambier Level
Gambier Transit
Gambier Theodolite
Gambier Tape
Gambier Chain
Gambier Rope
Gambier Wire
Gambier Cable
Gambier Net
Gambier Trap
Gambier Pot
Gambier Line
Gambier Hook
Gambier Bait
Gambier Lure
Gambier Fly
Gambier Rod
Gambier Reel
Gambier Tackle
Gambier Boat
Gambier Ship
Gambier Vessel
Gambier Craft
Gambier Canoe
Gambier Kayak
Gambier Raft
Gambier Float
Gambier Buoy
Gambier Anchor
Gambier Chain
Gambier Rope
Gambier Sail
Gambier Mast
Gambier Boom
Gambier Gaff
Gambier Rudder
Gambier Tiller
Gambier Helm
Gambier Wheel
Gambier Compass
Gambier Binnacle
Gambier Lamp
Gambier Light
Gambier Horn
Gambier Bell
Gambier Whistle
Gambier Siren
Gambier Radio
Gambier Antenna
Gambier Mast
Gambier Rigging
Gambier Shroud
Gambier Stay
Gambier Halyard
Gambier Sheet
Gambier Block
Gambier Tackle
Gambier Winch
Gambier Capstan
Gambier Windlass
Gambier Anchor
Gambier Chain
Gambier Rope
Gambier Cable
Gambier Hawser
Gambier Mooring
Gambier Line
Gambier Fender
Gambier Bumper
Gambier Rope
Gambier Ladder
Gambier Gangway
Gambier Deck
Gambier Hull
Gambier Keel
Gambier Stem
Gambier Stern
Gambier Bow
Gambier Port
Gambier Starboard
Gambier Side
Gambier Bottom
Gambier Top
Gambier Cabin
Gambier Saloon
Gambier Galley
Gambier Kitchen
Gambier Stove
Gambier Oven
Gambier Refrigerator
Gambier Sink
Gambier Table
Gambier Chair
Gambier Bench
Gambier Berth
Gambier Bunk
Gambier Mattress
Gambier Pillow
Gambier Blanket
Gambier Sheet
Gambier Curtain
Gambier Window
Gambier Porthole
Gambier Hatch
Gambier Door
Gambier Ladder
Gambier Companionway
Gambier Steps
Gambier Handrail
Gambier Grab Rail
Gambier Toilet
Gambier Head
Gambier Shower
Gambier Bath
Gambier Basin
Gambier Tap
Gambier Pump
Gambier Hose
Gambier Valve
Gambier Pipe
Gambier Tank
Gambier Water
Gambier Fuel
Gambier Oil
Gambier Engine
Gambier Motor
Gambier Propeller
Gambier Shaft
Gambier Rudder
Gambier Steering
Gambier Wheel
Gambier Tiller
Gambier Helm

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935.

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. 0d. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELF

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1819

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
.G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1818

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

BERMUDA, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1737 and 1774 respectively (Price 9d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 9*d.* net

Digitized by Google



AN ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

In this volume an attempt has been made to assemble all the essential facts relating to the economic situation of the Colonial Empire (the Non-Self-Governing Colonies, the Dependencies of certain of those Colonies, the Protectorates, the Protected States in Malaya and Borneo, and the Mandated Territories administered under the authority of H.M. Government in the United Kingdom).

SURVEY FOR 1935.

THE WORK IS DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS.

PART I contains a series of memoranda on the Economic Situation of the Individual Dependencies.

PART II contains a series of memoranda on the products of the Colonial Empire, both those which are produced for Export and those which are produced only for Internal Consumption.

F'cap Folio (Board Covers) 593 pp.

£1 5s. net. By Post £1 5s. 8d.

Obtainable from

TATIONERY OFFICE

Cover of this Report or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1818

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

BERMUDA, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1737 and 1774 respectively (Price 9d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937
Price 9*d.* net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BERMUDA, 1936

CONTENTS

Chapter.		Page
I.	Geography, Climate and History	2
II.	Government	3
III.	Civil Population	4
IV.	Health	5
V.	Housing	5
VI.	Production	6
VII.	Commerce	6
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	8
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	8
X.	Communications and Transport	10
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	11
XII.	Public Works	12
XIII.	Justice and Prisons	12
XIV.	Legislation	12
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	13
XVI.	Miscellaneous	14
	Map	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the West Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ North latitude and 64° 51′ West longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population in 1931 of 27,789. The estimated density of the population is 1,407 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

Climate.

The range of temperature during 1936 was between 46·5° F. (in February) and 91·6° F. (in August). The mean temperature for the year was 71·3° F. and the mean relative humidity 79 per cent. The total rainfall was 53·49 inches, 5·48 inches below the average for the 40 years 1891-1930.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Satherau
12-23-37
15205

History.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island " La Barmuda " in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship *The Sea Venture,* while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group " The Somers Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called " the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Island."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of *Quo Warranto* against the Charter of the Bermuda Company the Government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on 1st August, 1620.

Digitized by Google

When the Government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members of whom three are official and six nominated unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. There are about 2,353 electors, the electoral qualification being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards, composed of unofficials nominated by the Governor, with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only. A majority of the members of most Boards are members of the House of Assembly.

There are two municipalities and nine parish vestries exercising the right to impose local taxes.

III.—CIVIL POPULATION.

	White.			*Coloured.*			*Grand*
	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total*	*Total.*
1921 Census	3,282	3,724	7,006	6,347	6,774	13,121	20,127
1931 „	6,090	5,263	11,353	8,084	8,352	16,436	27,789
1936 estimated	6,435	5,602	12,037	9,124	9,391	18,515	30,552

The following are the figures for births and deaths in 1936:—

	White.			*Coloured.*			*Grand*
	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Total.*
Living births	121	95	216	283	249	532	748
Deaths ...	64	50	114	96	90	186	300
Excess births over deaths.	57	45	102	187	159	346	448

The living birth-rate amongst the civilian population was 24·2 per 1,000, being 17·2 amongst the white and 28·7 amongst the coloured population. The illegitimacy rate was 20 per cent. (4·8 white and 25·9 coloured). The death-rate was 10·8 per 1,000 (10·4 white, 11·01 coloured).

Digitized by Google

IV.—HEALTH.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the anopheles has never existed in the islands which have consequently been free from malaria. Severe epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

The numbers of infectious diseases notified from 1931 to 1936, with the principal contributors, were as follows:—

	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Chicken-pox	17	61	15	60	130	73
Diphtheria	8	30	23	14	6	5
Typhoid	4	7	4	5	14	7
Tuberculosis	17	11	13	14	14	16
Measles	142	—	8	5	7	7
German measles ...	—	1	1	1	114	200
Scarlet fever	33	39	8	7	6	44
Whooping cough ...	7	22	199	—	8	6
Mumps	7	5	3	52	161	148

The number of cases of diphtheria was the lowest in many years. German measles and scarlet fever were brought to us from New York in 1935. The majority of cases of the former occurred early in the year, while most of the latter were after midsummer. The scarlet fever in general was mild, there was no death, no serious ear infection, and but one case of severe nephritis. An obstetrical case had scarlet fever concurrently, and developed septicaemia, but recovered. In regard to the scarlet fever it might be noted that three cases occurred in one household, while in three other families there were two cases. One of the sharpest attacks of this year had an almost equally severe case in 1935.

Free clinics are held by the District Health Officers in the Western and Eastern districts, whilst the District Nurses provided by the Welfare Society continue to do good work.

V.—HOUSING.

There was considerable building activity during the year under review, principally of residential houses, the demand for which by American visitors is increasing. An unfortunate result of this demand is that rents have risen steeply, even for working men's houses. It is hoped that the supply will soon catch up with the demand, and so bring back rents to a more normal level. Meanwhile Government is watching the position.

Little progress was made by the Legislature with the Amenities Bill, the object of which is to control building and the sub-division of land.

Digitized by Google

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The principal industry of the Colony is agriculture. The products are vegetables for the North American market and home consumption, and lily bulbs.

The Government maintains packing-houses at Paget and Southampton Parishes at which vegetables are graded and packed for export; a fixed charge per crate is made for this service, and vegetables are shipped under the Government Registered Trade Mark. The growers are free to use these facilities, or pack their own produce on the farm, which is subject to Government inspection on the dock.

The number of crates packed at the Government packing-houses was 72,860 a decrease of 36,078 compared with the previous year.

The volume of vegetables exported was 126,175 bushels, a decrease of 12,301 bushels compared with the previous year. The exports of chief value were tomatoes, carrots and celery to Canada, potatoes and Easter lily bulbs to the United States of America, and lily bulbs to the United Kingdom. The estimated net value of agricultural produce sold in various countries during the years 1932 to 1936 is as follows:—

Country.	*Net value of Produce sold.*				
	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£	£
Canada	37,200	24,800	22,600	35,200	17,100
United States of America	11,300	10,400	9,000	8,900	11,400
United Kingdom ...	900	1,000	800	900	1,000
Other countries ...	100	300	600	700	300
Total	49,500	36,500	33,000	45,700	29,800

The value of agricultural produce sold locally cannot be computed with any degree of accuracy, but is probably in the neighbourhood of £168,000, giving a total net value for agricultural produce in 1936 of approximately £197,800.

The arable land under cultivation is estimated at 1,000 acres, most of which bears two or three crops each year. Farm-holdings are small, few with more than 10 acres of arable land, and most are in the hands of farmers of Portuguese descent.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The most important trade carried on in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the majority of whom come from America.

There are at least two boats a week from New York, and on an average one a week from Canada, in addition to cruise ships from both these countries and occasionally from England.

Digitized by Google

The promotion of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. The Board is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the trade.

An executive department with a staff of eight is regularly employed in carrying on the work of the Board in Bermuda, and information offices are maintained in London, Montreal and New York.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table:—

Year.	*Expenditure* £	*Tourists by Regular Ships*	*By Cruise Ships.*	*Total Tourists.*
1931	55,959	47,376	25,962	73,338
1932	57,621	45,190	29,324	74,514
1933	61,366	39,878	22,096	61,974
1934	64,144	45,647	29,509	75,156
1935	70,380	50,198	25,826	76,024
1936	73,500	57,270	23,316	80,586

The average annual expenditure on advertising is approximately £17,000 in the United States of America, £2,400 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain, in addition to which about £5,000 is expended for general publicity and £2,000 for promotional literature. Some £4,000 is spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. Steamship subsidies of about £31,000 annually are included in the expenditures of this Board.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 12s. 6d. on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. The comparatively low tariff of 10 per cent. to 12½ per cent. ad valorem enables articles to be sold at lower prices than in the United States or Canada. It has been estimated that at the least 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

The estimated value at the port of shipment of the imports and exports for the past five years has been as follows:—

	Imports. £	*Exports.* £
1932	1,891,526	93,461
1933	1,397,066	119,578
1934	1,340,727	294,762
1935	1,420,198	121,538
1936	1,891,676	135,812

Digitized by Google

Imports.

	1935. £	1936. £
United Kingdom	438,193	619,912
Rest of British Empire	300,038	354,992
Foreign Countries	681,967	916,772
	1,420,198	1,891,676

The chief articles of import were foodstuffs (£504,098), woollen goods (£123,271), beer, wines and spirits (£132,237), cotton goods (£66,994), hardware (£47,190), electrical goods (£74,694), perfumery (£44,671), boots and shoes (£34,448), furniture (£37,193).

Exports.

	1935. £	1936. £
United Kingdom	5,967	2,438
Rest of British Empire	41,545	46,451
Foreign Countries	74,026	86,923
	121,538	135,812

Of the total exports of £135,812 only £48,415 represents goods or produce of local manufacture. The balance is made up of goods of British or foreign make which are purchased locally and re-exported, largely by American visitors, who buy considerable quantities of woollens, liquor and perfumery which they take back to their own country. Vegetables and lily bulbs and flowers account for practically all of the exports of local produce and manufactures.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Agricultural labourers	6s. to 10s. a day	54 hours a week
Masons	16s. to 20s. a day	53 hours a week
Painters and carpenters ...	14s. to 20s. a day	53 hours a week
Building labourers	8s. to 10s. a day	53 hours a week
Cooks and maids	£5 to £10 a month	53 hours a week
Coachmen	£1 10s. to £2 a week.	

Cost of Living.

The cost of living expressed in terms of cash is high in Bermuda as compared with the United Kingdom; rents, foodstuffs, clothes, fuel and light, and transportation are all dearer.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. The fees are, however, very low. There are separate schools for white and coloured

Digitized by Google

children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races. The average number of pupils registered in the schools in 1936 was 4,471, and the average attendance 3,736 or 84 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age at the 31st December, 1936, are as follows:—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided Schools	836	2,359	3,195
Unaided	239	271	510
Taught at home	11	9	20
Receiving no instruction (including those mentally unfit). ...	34	47	81
	1,120	2,686	3,806

Thirty schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, 11 are attended by white and 19 by coloured children.

The total expenditure from public funds on education in 1936 was £29,311 of which the principal items were:—

	£
Administration	1,642
Pensions	1,107
Scholarships	893
Buildings, upkeep	846
Grants to schools	21,823
Grants for playgrounds	3,000

In six of the aided schools secondary school subjects are taught in the higher forms. The Colony is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held in July and December; and every year candidates from a number of the local schools sit for these examinations. There is no local university, and no local institute for the training of teachers.

A Rhodes Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are:—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

Digitized by Google

(*c*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £300 for one year at a University Training Department in Great Britain.

(*d*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £200 for two years at an approved Training College in Great Britain.

(*e*) Two Scholarships for two years each at a training college in Jamaica of an annual value of £110 for a man and £90 for a woman.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 5,956,410 tons.

The following tables show the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships:—

British.

	Steam Tons.	*Sail Tons.*	*Total Tons.*
Entered	2,398,008	811	2,398,819
Cleared	2,413,172	1,106	2,414,278
Total British shipping			4,813,097

Foreign.

	Steam Tons.	*Sail Tons.*	*Total Tons.*
Entered	582,270	1,675	583,945
Cleared	557,693	1,675	559,368
Total foreign shipping			1,143,313

The Furness-Bermuda Line operates a service of one to three sailings a week, according to the season, in each direction between Bermuda and New York. The Canadian National Steamships Line operates a weekly service between Canada; Bermuda and the West Indies. Both these Lines are subsidized by the Bermuda Government.

In addition there are direct passenger and freight services between Bermuda and England by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company (monthly) and Elders and Fyffes (every six weeks).

Railways.

A light standard gauge railway 22 miles in length connects both ends of the island to Hamilton.

Digitized by Google

Roads.

No development of any importance took place. The roads are not constructed for motor traffic, since, apart from the Public Works Department lorries, ambulances, and fire-engines, motor vehicles are prohibited. The roads are for horse-drawn vehicles and bicycles. For these they are good.

Postal.

The number of parcels received was 57,318. The money-order business amounted to £60,003. Of this, orders to the value of £53,018 were issued and £6,985 paid. The transit to London for mails is 10-14 days. The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire is 1½d. for the first ounce and 1d. for each additional ounce.

Cables and Wireless.

The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, a subsidiary of Cable and Wireless, Limited, operates cable, wireless and wireless telephone services between Bermuda and all parts of the world.

For cables and wireless messages the full rate to England is 2s. 4d. a word, to New York 1s. 6d. a word. The wireless telephone charges are $36 and $15 respectively for three minutes.

Telephones.

There are about 11,500 miles of telephone line, including underground cables, owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £12 (residential) to £20 per annum. There is no limit to the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges. The system is automatic throughout the Colony. The number of subscribers is 2,134.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are two private banks in the Colony, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statments amounted to £1,061,156 and £1,077,342 respectively.

English currency, weights and measures are the legal standards. There is, however, a Bermuda Government note issue of £1, 10s. and 5s. denominations to supplement the supply of English notes, which is small. Notes in circulation at 31st December, 1936, amounted to £203,943.

The market value of the investments held as security for this liability was £268,528 on 1st January, 1937. Included in this sum is an amount of £30,000 held in cash awaiting investment. There is no coin in reserve, but a liquid reserve of £10,000 is maintained in England in addition to the invested reserve.

Digitized by Google

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure on Public Works, annually, recurrent and extraordinary, and on channel works was £63,436, as compared with £53,397 in 1935 and £71,876 in 1934.

Of the total expended, £13,662 was on dredging, mainly the Narrows and Town Cut Channels, which were improved. Dredging operations commenced on 1st May, 1936.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND PRISONS.

The Judicial Department consists of the Supreme Court and three Magisterial Courts.

The Supreme Court is presided over by the Chief Justice and one or two Assistant Justices.

The Magisterial Courts are presided over by one Police Magistrate each.

During the year 1,678 persons were prosecuted of whom 84 persons were discharged, and 1,520 punished on summary conviction. 163 persons were convicted for offences against property, and 102 for offences against the person. 229 persons were committed to prison in 1936 as against 197 in 1935.

There are two prisons in the Colony, the one at Hamilton accommodating 45 prisoners, and the one at St. George's 37 prisoners. There are no associated wards, each prisoner being provided with a separate cell. The male prisoners are all employed, as far as practicable, on Government works outside the prisons, and the female prisoners in sewing mail bags and mending prison clothing.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Acts passed during 1936.

No.	*Title.*
1.	The King's Warehouse Regulations Act, 1936.
2.	The Sunshine League Act, 1936.
3.	The Bermuda Air Port Act, 1936.
4.	The Superannuation Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1936.
5.	The Dredger Loan Payment Act, 1936.
6.	The Public Carriage Act, 1936.
7.	The Wireless Telegraphy and Signalling Act, 1936.
8.	The Bermuda Domestic Science School Act, 1936.
9.	The E. A. and E. E. Trimingham Trusts Act, 1936.
10.	The Head of the Lane Act, 1936.
11.	The Philip Francis Heyl Estate Relief Act, 1936.
12.	The West India Oil Company, S. A. Act, 1936.
13.	The Trustee Act, 1936.
14.	The Summary Offences Act, 1926, Amendment Act, 1936.
15.	The Corporate Bodies Lands Act, 1936.
16.	The Dogs Act, 1925, Amendment Act, 1936.
17.	The Evean Act, 1936.
18.	The Henry James Agnew Williams Act, 1936.
19.	The Recording and Registration Act, 1922, Amendment Act, 1936.
20.	The Biological Station Act, 1936.
21.	The Devisees of Marion H. Payn Relief Act, 1936.

Digitized by Google

No.	*Title.*
22.	The Johnson and Cooper Act, 1936.
23.	The King Edward VII Memorial Hospital Act, 1936.
24.	The Real Property Limitation of Actions Act, 1936.
25.	The Audit Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1936.
26.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1935, Amendment Act, 1936.
27.	The Customs Tariff Act, (No. 2), 1935, Amendment Act, 1936.
28.	The Criminal Code Amendment Act, 1936.
29.	The Board of Trade Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1936.
30.	The Interpretation Act, 1907, Amendment Act, 1936.
31.	The Summary Offences Act, 1928, Amendment Act, 1936.
32.	The Stamp Duties Act, 1919, Amendment Act, 1936.
33.	The N. B. Taylor Employment Act, 1936.
34.	The Revenue Department Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1936.
35.	The Revenue Act, 1898, Amendment Act, 1936.
36.	The Dangerous Drugs Act, 1936.
37.	The Bellevue Limited Act, 1936.
38.	The United Securities Limited Act, 1936.
39.	The Bank of Bermuda Act, 1936.
40.	The N. T. Butterfield and Son Bank Act, 1936.
41.	The Liquor Licence Act, 1936.
42.	The International Match Realization Company Limited Act, 1936.
43.	The Note Security Fund Act, 1936.
44.	The Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1936.
45.	The Alien Act, 1926, Amendment Act, 1936.
46.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1936.
47.	The Customs Tariff (No. 2), 1936.
48.	The Corporate Bodies Lands Act (2) 1936.
49.	The Appropriation Act, 1936.
50.	The Revenue Act, 1898, Amendment Act, (No. 2), 1936.
51.	The Bermuda Railway Company Act, 1936.
52.	The Municipalities Act, 1923, Amendment Act, 1936.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1932-6:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1932	462,607	443,501
1933	438,226	414,667
1934	363,473	372,065
1935	391,895	371,440
1936	431,399	412,414

Of the total revenue for the year, £299,025 represents Customs receipts.

No changes were made during the year under review in the method of raising revenue apart from certain alterations in the specific Customs duties.

There is a general Reserve Fund, created in 1921, the market value of the invested funds on the 31st December, 1936, amounting to £6,858, to which an amount of £20,000 has since been added.

Digitized by Google

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on 31st December was £89,108 against £82,579 in 1935 and £86,254 in 1934.

The public debt of the Colony stood at £75,000 at the end of the year. A sum of £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, £20,000 in 1927, and the balance in 1930. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on 31st December was £47,083 (market value).

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1936, was £244,574.

The total assets amounted to £537,829 of which £268,588 was held for Government Notes redemption, £99,063 for the Savings Bank, and £73,608 for the Superannuation Fund.

The revenue from specific Customs tariffs was derived as follows:—

	£
From *ad valorem* duties	98,119
From surtax	39,557
From duty on spirits (including alcohol)	43,644
From Cigars and cigarettes	17,280
From malt liquor	10,218
From export tax	9,660

There is a stamp duty of 12s. 6d. on passenger tickets in respect of every person leaving Bermuda. Revenue from this source is about £42,000. A stamp duty of 1d. is payable in respect of all receipts for £1 or more and in respect of all cheques.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency, General Sir Thomas Astley Cubitt, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, departed from Bermuda on the 1st April, 1936, and his appointment expired on the 19th April, 1936.

His Excellency, Lieut.-General Sir Reginald John Thoroton Hildyard, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who was appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief with effect from the 20th April, 1936, landed in the Colony and assumed his office on the 21st May, 1936.

The Honourable Alexander William George Herder Grantham, Colonial Secretary, acted as Governor from the 1st April, 1936, to the 20th May, 1936, and during His Excellency the Governor's absence on leave from the 24th October, 1936, to the 6th November, 1936.

The New Year Honours List contained the following award:—

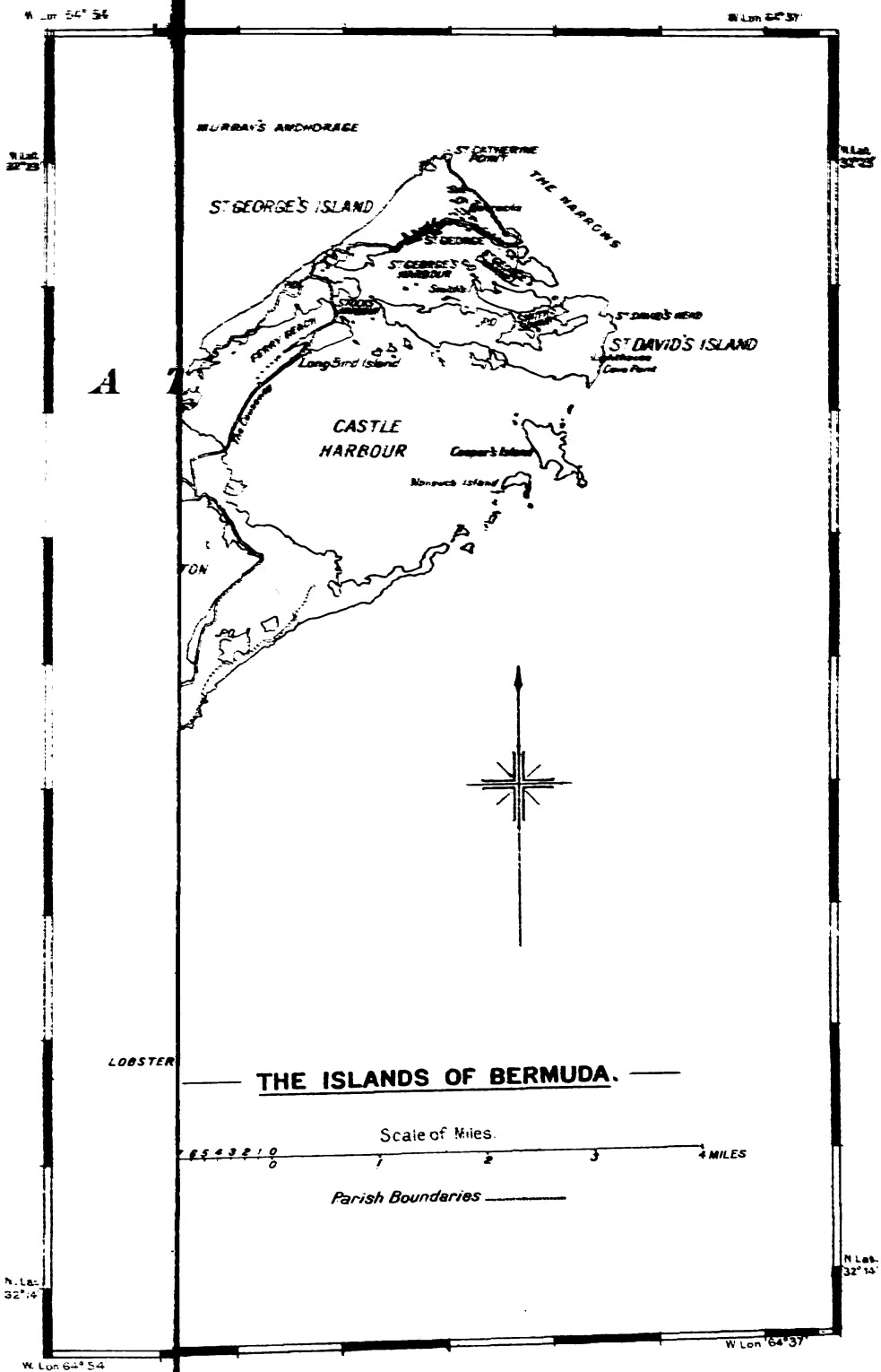
C.B.E. (Civil Division).—Mr. James Reginald Conyers, M.C.P.

The Birthday Honours List contained the following award:—

M.B.E. (Civil Division).—Miss Jane Ingham Frith.

(45286—48) Wt. 2462—3902 625 11/37 P. St. G. 377/7

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. od. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. od. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1 (£1 os. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. od. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chi

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58–1818

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google


JV
33
GT
A3
Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1817

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1724 and 1787 respectively (price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 1s. 3d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937. [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street
MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. A[illegible]
ELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
[illegible]ler

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1817

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1724 and 1787 respectively (price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 1s. 3d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF TONGA FOR THE YEAR 1936

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY	2
II.—GOVERNMENT	5
III.—POPULATION	5
IV.—HEALTH	7
V.—HOUSING	10
VI.—PRODUCTION	11
VII.—COMMERCE	13
VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING	14
IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS	16
X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT	19
XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	21
XII.—PUBLIC WORKS	22
XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS	22
XIV.—LEGISLATION	26
XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION	27
XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS	30
APPENDICES:	
A. METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY	33
B. PUBLICATIONS	35

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Ha'apai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu and Tafahi.

The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude, and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Govt. Pub.
Sectional
12-14-37
15205

The islands consist of two parallel chains running north and south. The western chain is volcanic in formation and the eastern corralline. With the exception of Tofua and Falcon islands the volcanoes are dormant or extinct.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch navigators Schouten and Lemaire in 1616. They did not visit the main groups.

In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman, and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored in Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Ha'apai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. In 1789 Captain Bligh visited the Ha'apai group. It was in the waters of this group that the mutiny of the *Bounty* occurred.

Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

Contact with the outside world was now established.

Climate.

The climate of the Tongan group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity during these months is, as a rule, relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity, especially when the wind is northerly, is high. This season is trying for Europeans. The meteorological summary for the year is appended to this Report.

History.

The early history of Tonga is enshrouded in myth, and any attempt to reconstruct the past is based on the list of the Tui Tonga, the ancient kings. This list has been compiled by ethnologists and dates back to the 10th century. The extent of the dominions of these ancient kings is not clearly known, but there is evidence that they possessed overlordship over a vast area of Polynesia, whence they received tribute. The kingship was hereditary and the power of the Tui Tonga was absolute. About the 15th century, after the murder of a Tui Tonga, his successor, while retaining his sacred powers, divested himself of much of his executive authority, which he transferred to his brother, whom he henceforth called the Tui Haatakalaua. At this time it may be said that there were two kings in Tonga, the spiritual and the temporal. About the middle of the 17th century the temporal king transferred his executive power to a brother, retaining for himself the presentation of offerings from his people. The new chief was called the Tui Kanokupolu, and succession to the title, though not hereditary, was kept within the family. From the date of the creation of the new title the powers of the Tui Tonga and the Tui Haatakalaua gradually passed into the

Digitized by Google

hands of the Tui Kanokupolu and in the middle of the 19th century, upon the death of the then Tui Tonga, the insignia of the ancient title of the Tui Tonga were conferred upon the Tui Kanokupolu, King George I, the founder of the reigning dynasty. While the evolution of a sacred line of chiefs is not without historic parallel, the double delegation of powers renders difficult the true understanding of the ancient Tongan polity.

Evidence remains in modern Tonga of the power of the ancient kings in the form of the stone monuments which still exist. Chief of these is the Haamoga—a trilithon consisting of two large upright coral stones about 16 feet high, with a connecting stone, 19 feet long, laid horizontally across and mortised into the tops of the upright pieces, the visible parts of which are estimated to weigh between 30 and 40 tons. It was probably erected about the 13th century. Tradition is not consistent as to the reason which impelled the then Tui Tonga to erect this monument, but it is evidentiary of an absolute power. Its state of preservation is excellent. Other evidence of the powers of the ancient kings is to be found in the langis, the royal burial grounds which still exist in Tonga. They consist of quadrilaterial mounds, faced by hugh blocks of stone, rising sometimes in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men skilled in the use of rollers and levers. The stones out of which the monuments were constructed were probably quarried from the coral reefs, though there is a strong traditionary evidence that many of them came from distant Polynesian islands.

From the close of the 18th century the history of Tonga can be obtained from the chronicles of Europeans who visited the islands or from European missionary sources. During the first half of the 19th century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of King George I who had by conquest gathered all power in his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George I came strongly under missionary influence and, though his rule was absolute, he determined to grant a Constitution, based on the English model, to the Tongans. This Constitution, granted over fifty years ago, has been from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs little from the original. King George died in 1893, at the age of ninety-six, after a memorable reign of nearly fifty years. He was the creator of modern Tonga. He was succeeded by his great-grandson, King George II. The present monarch, Queen Salote Tubou, D.B.E., succeeded to the throne on the death of her father King George II in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900 and a British Agent appointed.

Digitized by Google

The language of the group is Tongan, though the laws and Government *Gazettes* are published in both English and Tongan.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Under the Constitution of Tonga the Government is divided into three bodies, the Queen, Privy Council, and Cabinet; the Legislative Assembly; and the Judiciary. The chief executive body is the Queen-in-Council, and executive decisions of lesser import are taken in Cabinet over which the Premier presides. The law-making power is vested in the Assembly which consists of the members of the Privy Council, seven nobles elected by their peers, and seven representatives elected by the people. Elections are held triennially. A limited law-making power is vested in the Privy Council; any legislation passed by the Executive is subject to review at the next meeting of the Legislature. At present the technical and financial departments are administered by European members of the Tongan civil service, and Tongan ministers control the other departments. The northern group of islands, Ha'apai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands are administered by Tongan Governors who are members of, and responsible to, the Executive. Minor Tongan officials perform statutory duties in connection with the village life of the people.

No constitutional changes took place during the year.

III.—POPULATION.

The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1936, was 31,604. The increase in the population during the year ending April, 1936, was 2·86 per cent., compared with ·80 per cent. for 1935.

The figures for other races are as follows:—

Europeans	342
Half-castes	499
Other Pacific Islanders	206
Others	139

The incidence of the non-Tongan population has not varied appreciably during the last 10 years.

The average density of population for all races is 131·16 per square mile.

The following figures show the vital statistics of the Tongan population for the five years ending 31st December last:—

Year.	*Number of Births.*	*Birth-rate. Per Mille.*
1932	1,180	40·47
1933	1,139	37·99
1934	1,191	38·88
1935	1,194	37·90
1936	1,230	38·21

Digitized by Google

As regards the sexes of the children born the following table shows the proportion for the last five years:—

Year.	*Males.*	*Females.*
1932	1,156·6	1,000
1933	1,228·9	1,000
1934	1,000·0	1,013·5
1935	1,027·1	1,000
1936	1,157·1	1,000

The illegitimate births amounted to 251. The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate births to every 100 births during the last five years:—

Year.	*Percentage.*
1932	15·42
1933	18·29
1934	17·96
1935	20·10
1936	20·30

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death-rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of Deaths*	*Death-rate.*
1932	417	14·64
1933	432	14·36
1934	430	14·03
1935	399	12·71
1936	529	16·25

The following table shows the infant mortality rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*In per mille of Births.*
1932	74·50
1933	75·60
1934	71·30
1935	91·60
1936	95·93

The following table sets out the total number of marriages performed and the marriage rate for the last five years:—

Year.	*Total Number*	*Rate per mille of population.*
1932	243	8·02
1933	227	7·58
1934	188	6·13
1935	229	7·11
1936	229	7·11

The Chief Justice of Tonga is the Registrar-General of births, marriages, and deaths of Tongan subjects. Registration in the case of British subjects and foreigners is provided for under

Digitized by Google

the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893, and Regulations made thereunder, and is effected at the office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

IV.—HEALTH.

The Medical Department of the Government of Tonga consists of three medical officers, a dentist, a European nurse, seven Tongan medical practitioners and a Tongan subordinate staff. Three Tongan nurses are on the staff at Nukualofa Hospital and there is one Tongan nurse at each of the two hospitals in the northern group of islands. Four Tongan students are studying at the Central Medical School, Suva, Fiji.

The Tongans receive free medical attention. Other patients are charged fees on a scale laid down by the Executive. Fees are paid direct into revenue. The dentist receives a retaining fee from the Government. Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £7,449 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 12·79 per cent. of the estimated revenue for the year. There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa is well equipped to meet the needs of the community. It consists of European and Tongan wards, three maternity wards, in separate buildings, and a dispensary. The hospital has a portable X-ray outfit. The other hospitals are in Ha'apai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. There are no estates in the commonly accepted sense of the term. Reference to the system of land tenure is made below. In recording statistical information as to the prevalence of disease it follows that the figures refer only to the home life of the people and the quesion of disease caused by work in factories or mines does not arise.

Disease.	*Number of cases during the year.*
Filariasis	1,428
Tetanus	10
Leprosy	1
Conjunctivitis	588
Trachoma	255
Typhoid fever	206
Yaws	502
Dysentery	66
Tuberculosis	71
Pneumonia	112
Measles	11,023

Digitized by Google

Comparative figures of reported cases of typhoid are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1932	165
1933	147
1934	142
1935	112
1936	206

The disease is endemic. During the year a total of 351 prophylactic inoculations were given.

Comparative figures of reported cases of dysentery are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1932	12
1933	59
1934	56
1935	46
1936	66

Most of the cases notified during the year were bacillary in character.

Comparative figures of reported cases of tuberculosis are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1932	256
1933	230
1934	106
1935	131
1936	71

This disease is by far the commonest cause of death; out of 201 patients attended by the Medical Department and subsequently dying, 18 per cent. died from some form of tuberculosis.

Comparative figures of reported cases of yaws are as follows:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*
1932	575
1933	663
1934	594
1935	988
1936	502

A total of 1,377 B.S.T. and 583 N.A.B. injections were given.

A moderately severe epidemic of measles affected the whole group in the middle of the year. The first case was discovered on a local schooner which had recently returned from Fiji. The epidemic assumed pandemic magnitude affecting practically every home. The total number of notified cases was 11,023. The total mortality was 31.

Digitized by Google

The principal causes of death, when a member of the Medical Department was in attendance, were:—

	Per cent.		*Per cent.*
Tuberculosis ...	18·0	Cancer	6·2
Measles	15·4	Septic conditions	3·5
Pneumonia ...	9·0	Tetanus	2·4
Typhoid fever ...	8·5	Nutritional ...	2·1
Nervous diseases	8·0	Parturition ...	1·9
Cardiac disease	7·0	Respiratory ...	1·0

The following is a summary of the work performed during the year by the medical staff at the three hospitals:—

	Nukualofa.	*Vavau.*	*Ha'apai.*
Admissions	340	156	25
Major operations ...	198	35	12
Minor operations ...	1,336	618	326
Outpatients:—			
Attendances	35,686	8,680	21,485
Visits	9,511	4,134	5,468
Anaesthetics	648	70	413
Confinements ...	106	43	25
Sanitary inspections...	379	1,500	700

The figures for two dispensaries in Tongatabu are included in the outpatient department figures of Nukualofa hospital.

The following is a summary of the work performed by the Tongan staff at outlying dispensaries in Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, Nomuka and Eua:

Minor operations	321
Intravenous injections for yaws	222
Attendances as out-patients	14,579
Visits	4,148
Confinements	91
Sanitary inspections	7

The following is a summary of the work performed during the year by the Dental Department:—

Number of patients	1,347
Extractions	1,880
Fillings	359
Pyorrhoea cases treated	127

The Government dentist visited the northern islands of the group during the year.

The value of institutional treatment of maternity cases is becoming appreciated by the Tongans. There were 170 attendances at the ante-natal clinic at Nukualofa Hospital and mothers are encouraged to come to hospital for their confinements, as

Digitized by Google

far as the limitation of space permits. An infant welfare clinic has also been established. There were 82 attendances during the year. Free supplies of food for infants, when necessary, are provided.

As regards sanitation, the work of erecting cement latrines has been completed and the use of a standard pattern approved by the Board of Health is compulsory. Progress, though slow, is being made in the construction of cement tanks for water conservation and in the repairs of existing village tanks. In the past many large tanks were built in Tonga with no catchment area except their own roofs. The village churches afford excellent catchment but there was a repugnance among the Tongans to use the church roof for this purpose. This antipathy has now disappeared. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga and it is essential, in the interest of the public health, that a complete system of rain-water conservation tanks be installed. As a prevention against typhoid and dysentry the necessity of an unpolluted supply of drinking water is apparent. During periods of drought the people are frequently dependent on well-water for general domestic purposes.

V.—HOUSING.

The Tongan native house is built with reed sides and thatched roof. It is illegal to build a house less than 12 ft. in length and proportionately broad. The average size, however, is approximately 20 ft. long and 12 ft. broad. The native kitchen is merely a shelter built apart from the dwelling house. Ordinary plots are used for cooking purposes, but on special occasions food is always prepared in a native oven. This consists of a pit about 3 ft. deep which is lined with stones. The stones are heated by means of a flue and the food—pork, fish, or fowl, and native root crops—is baked among the stones, which are covered with leaves and earth.

The Tongan in later years has shown a preference for the European style of house and, according to the census figures of 1936, approximately one-third of the houses are now of wooden construction with corrugated iron roofs. These cottages consist of one or more rooms and verandah. While they lack the picturesqueness of the native house they are easier to maintain. The tendency to prefer the European type of house is accentuated by the fact that the supply of wood and thatching materials suitable for house building is limited. Economic depression has, however, checked the substitution of the thatched cottage by the wooden house and the houses built in recent years are mostly of native construction. There is no housing problem in Tonga and a wage-earning class may be said not to exist, as the people are peasant proprietors. The houses are the property of the people. Legal provision is made

Digitized by Google

for an annual inspection of houses and if any house is found to be in bad repair or badly drained it is lawful for the Tongan District Officer to order the owner to rebuild or provide proper drainage. Provision is also made for the weeding of the land around the houses and an inspection is made in the towns every two months to ensure that town sites are kept clean.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. The chief crop is copra and production is almost entirely confined to the Tongans. There are a few European leaseholds but the percentage of copra exported by Europeans is negligible. The Tongan is a peasant proprietor and cultivates in person his statutory area of 8¼ acres to which reference is made below. Plantation labour, in the ordinary sense of the term, does not therefore exist. Approximately 20 per cent. of the coconut crop is consumed locally. It is used for cooking and drinking purposes, or for feeding pigs and fowls. The average annual value of the copra crop exported during the past five years has been £86,456. Every Tongan taxpayer is an actual or potential copra producer. There are at present 8,445 taxpayers. European influence has not, in the past, speaking generally, had any material influence on the method of copra production by the Tongan. In modern times legislation has been passed to provide for the proper spacing of newly-planted trees, and it is now an incident of the tenure of the 8¼-acre allotment of a Tongan that one-half of the area should be planted with coconut trees in rows, and so arranged that the trees are 30 ft. apart. The legislation further provides for the weeding and inspection of allotments. The Tongan cultivator in the past planted his coconut trees closely together and it is difficult to persuade the ordinary farmer that a thinning out of overplanted areas will result in an increased crop. Legislative provision was made in 1926 having for its object the improvement in the quality of the copra exported, and it is an offence for a trader to have in his possession bad or damaged copra. In 1935 further provision was made in an amending Act to ensure that traders had proper drying platforms for copra.

Prior to the War there was considerable trade with New Zealand in bananas and citrus fruits, but the absence of direct communication with the Dominion, which ceased during the War, killed the trade. During the year 1931 satisfactory transport arrangements were made and banana production for export purposes recommenced. The first shipment of fruit was made in December, 1931. In 1932 exports amounted to 47,659 cases valued at £10,452. In 1933 exports amounted to 17,098 cases valued at £3,782. The banana industry received a severe setback in 1933, as a result of the severe gales experienced towards

Digitized by Google

the latter part of February, when practically all the tall varieties of bananas were laid flat and others severely damaged. In 1932 an arrangement was concluded with His Majesty's Government in New Zealand allotting a quota share of the Dominion banana market to Fiji and Tonga, the combined quota for the two administrations was fixed at 12,000 cases from May to September and 15,000 cases from October to April. The Tongan share of the quota was subsequently fixed at 20 per cent. of the total Fiji-Tonga quota, and Tonga commenced shipments on this basis in January, 1933. In 1934, owing to lack of shipping, it was only possible to send nine shipments, amounting to 26,402 cases, valued at £6,907, to the Dominion. In 1935 the combined quota was reduced and the Tongan share of the quota was fixed at 1,900 cases in May, 2,500 from June to September, and 2,400 from October to April. During the year, 29,793 cases were shipped, valued at £8,352. In 1936 the combined quota was again reduced and the Tongan share fixed at 2,200 cases from October to April and 1,700 cases from May to September. During the year 25,928 cases were shipped, valued at £7,373. The Tongan does not use the ordinary banana, to any degree, as a foodstuff and fruit production over market requirements would be used as feeding-stuff for pigs.

In addition to bananas small shipments of pineapples and kumaras (sweet potatoes), of an approximate value of £365, were shipped to New Zealand. Bêche-de-mer to the value of £516 was shipped to Hong Kong and New Zealand.

The main vegetable food of the Tongan consists of yams, taro, kumaras, and plantains. The approximate area under root crops is 8,000 acres. These crops are grown for local consumption only and it would be impossible to form any accurate estimate of their value.

The soil throughout the group is very fertile and in Tongatabu European vegetables of most summer varieties are easily grown except during the hot months of December to April. They are cultivated chiefly for local consumption by Europeans. The amount produced is limited by the extent of the available market.

Livestock production is confined, in general, to pigs, cattle, and goats. There is no export of livestock.

There are approximately 20,186 pigs in the group. They are used as a foodstuff by the Tongans and on ceremonial occasions they form an important part of the feast.

Cattle are limited in number and owned chiefly by Europeans. The younger Tongan is showing a tendency to keep cows. This, however, is a modern development due to contact with Europeans.

Digitized by Google

The Tongan does not as a rule sell his pigs and it would be difficult therefore to form an estimate of their value. The number of goats, according to the census figure for the year, is 3,233.

There is no mineral production in Tonga.

There are no fisheries.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade during the last five years:—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*
	£	£
1932	86,006	96,163
1933	86,007	114,447
1934	48,526	77,842
1935	68,782	90,711
1936	92,296	116,539

The export trade during the year was confined almost entirely to copra, bananas, and a small amount of bêche-de-mer. Copra is exported on optional bills of lading, and is mostly sold on the Continent of Europe. The quantity and value of copra exported during the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	*Tons.*	*Value.*
		£
1932	8,323	83,228
1933	11,397	105,028
1934	10,154	59,941
1935	12,039	79,003
1936	11,899	105,078

The principal imports, apart from drapery, benzine and kerosene, were of Empire origin. The following table shows the countries of origin and value of imports from these countries during the last five years:—

Country of origin.	**1932.*	**1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand ...	29,743	22,343	10,826	16,079	21,911
Australia	28,759	24,410	10,325	12,932	24,606
United Kingdom ...	10,495	11,155	8,295	10,159	13,246
India	—	1,144	5,208	4,874	5,510
Fiji	5,026	6,734	3,765	1,499	1,906
Other British Territories	84	118	1,008	1,898	3,206
United States of America	5,224	10,172	3,090	7,990	5,441
Japan	6,475	9,528	4,187	11,069	13,291
Other Foreign Countries	199	395	1,822	2,282	3,180

* Imports classified according to country of consignment. From 1934 onwards classification was by country of origin.

Digitized by Google

The details and value of principal imports during the last five years are as follows:—

General Description.	*1932.* £	*1933.* £	*1934.* £	*1935.* £	*1936.* £
Bags, gunny	5,959	7,076	5,164	4,754	5,320
Beer	1,098	1,176	857	650	818
Benzine	2,373	3,440	1,086	2,825	1,808
Biscuits	1,011	1,079	569	691	1,068
Butter	1,273	957	634	853	1,103
Cigars and cigarettes...	388	407	272	325	337
Cordage and Rope ...	830	1,164	466	1,002	1,018
Drapery	16,185	15,345	5,356	13,219	14,371
Flour	4,990	5,595	2,534	4,773	9,650
Galvanized ware ...	1,224	1,293	494	1,369	1,250
Hardware	2,636	2,801	1,169	1,113	1,774
Meats, tinned ...	10,091	9,369	4,650	7,639	10,882
Motor cars and parts	447	1,130	724	1,431	2,145
Soap	1,646	1,675	1,416	1,739	1,958
Spirits	867	1,141	1,206	402	520
Sugar	2,392	2,548	1,742	1,948	3,156
Tobacco	1,292	1,705	1,073	1,451	1,905
Timber	367	2,773	305	914	1,768

The rise in the value of imports during the year is accounted for by the improved condition of the copra market. The Tongan is a free spender and the commercial houses, who had been carrying light stocks, imported more freely than they had done for a considerable period.

Imports from the United Kingdom showed a slight improvement but the adverse exchange position (Tongan currency is on the Australian basis) and the importation of cheap foreign draperies seriously affects a material improvement. Imports from the United Kingdom consist chiefly of hardware, soft goods, drugs and medical supplies.

During the year drapery imports from the United Kingdom were valued at £2,287 as against £10,910 from Japan.

The market for the British light car is limited. Benzine is retailed at 2s. per gallon and the advantages of the low-horse-powered car in the matter of running expenses are obvious. At the end of the year 83 private cars and 42 commercial vehicles were registered. Of these only thirteen cars and one lorry were British.

Imports from New Zealand and Australia consist chiefly of flour, sugar, tinned meats, beer, and tobacco. Gunny bags, used for copra, are of Indian origin.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

It is difficult to draw a comparison between the cost of living in the United Kingdom and Tonga on account of the general difference in conditions. The general tariff on imported goods is 20 per cent. *ad valorem* and the preferential tariff 12½ per cent.; freight charges on imports are high. There is, on the

Digitized by Google

other hand, no income tax. Supplies of fresh meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and ice are obtainable in Nukualofa, the seat of Government.

In the outlying islands fresh meat, milk, and ice are not procurable. Excellent vegetables are obtainable in Nukualofa, except during the months of December to April, at reasonable prices. The following table shows the current prices of certain necessary commodities:—

Sugar	4d. per lb.
Tea	2s. 6d. to 4s. per lb.
Butter	1s. 6d. local; 2s. imported.
Flour	3d. per lb.
Onions	4d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. 6d. to 2s. per doz.
Bacon	1s. 9d. per lb.
Ham	1s. 9d. per lb.
Bread	9d. per 2-lb. loaf.
Meat	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Poultry	2s. to 3s. a fowl.
Kerosene	10s. per 4-gallon tin.
Benzine	10s. per 4-gallon tin.

The household budget of an official will, on the whole, be approximately 25 to 30 per cent. higher in Tonga than in the United Kingdom.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. The Tongan cultivates his own farm. A few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians work in the stores or on European plantations. The average wage of a store labourer is 3s. a day with two meals. These labourers were in the past brought from Fiji and their passages paid by their employers. The hours of work of a labourer in stores are nine a day. The Government employs Tongan labour on the roads. The unskilled man receives 3s. a day. Labourers on the plantations are few in number. They receive a wage of £2 to £4 a month with food.

Domestic servants are expensive. Tongan men do not engage in domestic duties and Tongan girls receive a wage of £2 10s. to £3 a month and food. Indian cooks from Fiji, when procurable, receive a wage of £5 to £6 a month, with food, and in addition their fares from and to Fiji are paid by their employers.

The staple foodstuff of the Tongan is root crops grown on his own farm. He uses his pigs as a meat diet. Fish, locally caught, is extensively eaten. It would be difficult to assess with any degree of accuracy his cost of living.

When labourers are rationed by employers the cost is approximately £1 10s. a month. They are given a diet similar to that of a Tongan.

Digitized by Google

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The early history of education in Tonga is closely associated with the activities of the Christian Missions. The Government, however, decided on the establishment of State schools at an early stage in the development of the country; there are references to such schools in speeches by King George I delivered over 50 years ago. In 1882 the first King founded Tonga College. He made a personal gift of the valuable site on which the College was built and also endowed it with a large area of planting land. Since its foundation over 4,500 students have been in residence.

Some years before Tonga College was founded, the King had founded Tubou College. The Wesleyan Mission since 1826 had carried out educational work but the foundation of the College in 1866 marked a definite advance. Girls were admitted to Tubou College in 1870 and it is on record that girls have been captains of the whole school.

In 1888 the Roman Catholic Mission founded Api Foou College for the further training of selected boys from parochial schools.

In the various Tonga Codes of Law which have been published during the last 50 years statutes dealing with education have been included. In 1927 a comprehensive Act was passed. Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, under the Education Act, are divided into three types, primary, middle, and high. The primary schools provide an elementary education in the vernacular. There are 68 Government and 44 denominational primary schools. The average daily attendance throughout the year was 5,576. The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1936, was 31,604. Of this total 8,445 are taxpayers, i.e., males over the age of 16 years. The number of males and females in the country is approximately the same. If, therefore, allowance is made for the children who have not reached the school age and those between the ages of 14 and 16 years, it will be seen that practically all Tongans between the ages of six and 14 attended the primary schools. These schools provide an education in accordance with a Government syllabus and are subject to an inspection. Elementary instruction is given in the three Rs, history of Tonga, geography, hygiene, singing, needlework, and native arts. The buildings of the Government primary schools were, until the year 1930, provided and maintained by the taxpayers of the villages. By an amending law of that year they are charged on general revenue. Education is free. In all primary schools there is co-education.

Digitized by Google

It has not been possible to establish the middle schools provided for in the Act. At these an elementary education on an English basis will be given. In the primary schools the medium of instruction is Tongan, but in several of these elementary instruction in English is now given.

The Colleges to which reference has been made above provide a general secondary education of a simple nature. They are residential.

The staff at the Government College consists of three European masters, five Tongan masters, and a bandmaster. There are 230 boys in residence. The ordinary academic subjects are taught; the medium of instruction is English. The boys grow their own food, mostly vegetables and root crops, on the College plantation. The College brass band during term gives a weekly recital in the War Memorial Band Rotunda in Nukualofa and plays on official occasions. The band was first formed in the College in 1886 under the conductorship of the grandson of the royal founder of the College.

The Director of Education, who is also Principal of the College, conducts an annual course of instruction at the College for teachers from the Government primary schools during the long vacation. Instruction is practical and theoretical and the results have proved useful.

Tubou College is a Free Wesleyan Mission school. It is now divided into two parts, the boys' school at Nafualu and the girls' school at Nukualofa. Both are residential. At the end of the year there were 329 boys and 119 girls in residence. The staff at the boys' school consists of one European and five Tongans; at the girls' school there are two European and one Tongan teachers. The objective of the school at Nafualu is the training of boys in academic subjects to fit them for general usefulness in the country and especially in the Church, as primary school teachers in Mission schools. In examinations conducted by the Government the record of the school is particularly good. It possesses a museum housed in an historic Tongan Church which was removed from Nukualofa and re-erected in the school grounds. The museum building is the finest example of Tongan architecture now extant. The collection consists of over 200 exhibits.

At the girls' school the curriculum is similar to that taught in the boys' school, domestic science being substituted for the agricultural training given to the boys.

At Api Foou College, there are 115 students in residence. The staff consists of one European and six Tongans.

Secondary education for girls, apart from Mission, is undeveloped.

Digitized by Google

No provision is made by the Government for the education of European children. The Missions have schools which the children attend. Instruction of an elementary type only is given.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated in 1927 under which Tongan students from the secondary schools proceed abroad for higher education. At present one scholar is in residence at Newington College, Australia, and four scholars have entered the Central Medical School, Fiji. The value of the scholarships is £150 per annum at Newington College and £100 per annum at the Central Medical School.

Expenditure on educational services amounted to £6,248. This sum is equivalent to 10·9 per cent. of the total expenditure for the year.

No fees are charged in any Government schools.

The following fees are charged at Mission schools:—

Wesleyan Mission. Secondary Schools only. Boys—£1 per annum. Girls—£2 per annum.

Roman Catholic Mission. Schools at Nukualofa in Tongatabu and Neiafu in Vavau. One shilling per week.

Latter Day Saints Mission. Secondary school only, 10s. per annum.

No fees are charged at the other schools of these Missions nor at the schools conducted by the Anglican Mission, the Seventh Day Adventist Mission and the Free Church of Tonga.

During the year 1931 an Education Commission was appointed to report, *inter alia,* upon the present administration of the Education Department, with special reference to the supervision and inspection of primary schools, the training of teachers, and the suitability or otherwise of the primary school syllabus. A recommendation of the Commission that primary school work should, so far as possible, be transferred to the Missions, assisted by grants-in-aid, has been approved in Parliament, but action has not yet been taken.

The Government of Tonga contributes to the funds of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

Games play an important part in Tongan school life. The Tongan is a keen rugby footballer and cricketer and a particularly good tennis player. The sports meeting between Tonga College and Tubou College is one of the big events of Tongan social life. At the girls' school basket ball is extensively played.

The Tongan is a keen musician. Brass and string bands exist in most of the principal towns.

The Tongan is keen also on concerts at which European and Tongan items are performed. Considerable ability is displayed in staging simple plays which are frequently included in concert programmes.

Digitized by Google

On account of the nature of Tongan polity it is unnecessary to make any provision for orphanages or for the maintenance of persons incapacitated by sickness or accident or for the aged. In all cases care and maintenance devolve upon the relatives who assume responsibility as a matter of course.

During the year 1931 a " European Aid Society " was formed in Nukualofa, having for its object the assistance of aged Europeans. The society is a voluntary one and is kept in funds by small uniform subscriptions from residents. It represents a modest effort on the part of Europeans to render assistance to deserving cases which have arisen in the community.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

A regular four-weekly subsidized cargo service between Nukualofa and Auckland was maintained during the first half of the year by a small steamer under charter to the Union Steamship Company. The vessel had no accommodation for passengers. It was replaced in the second half of the year by the Company's new ship, the M. V. *Matua.* This vessel has accommodation for passengers and is specially refrigerated for the fruit trade. The route followed is Auckland, Rarotonga, Tonga, Samoa, Fiji, Auckland. During the cool season (May to October) the vessel proceeds to Tonga direct from Auckland. In addition nine vessels visited the Protectorate during the year for copra cargoes. Of these, two were British, six Swedish, and one Panamanian.

One tourist vessel visited Nukualofa during the year.

The total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at the two ports of entry amounted to 79,207. Of this total 40,614 were British, 34,578 Swedish, and 2,342 Panamanian.

Inter-insular communication is maintained by a Japanese auxiliary ketch. It is a small ship fitted with a semi-diesel engine.

Roads.

There are approximately 42 miles of metalled road in Tongatabu and 14 miles in Vavau suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are graded earth roads; they are unsuitable for heavy traffic during rains.

There are no railways in the islands.

Telephones and Wireless.

The Tongan Government maintains a wireless station at Nukualofa and sub-stations at Vavau, Ha'apai, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu. The sub-stations communicate only with the main station. Nukualofa radio communicates with New Zealand, Samoa, and Fiji and thence to all parts of the world. The service with New Zealand was inaugurated in April, 1935, and is conducted on short wave by the Nukualofa and Wellington

Digitized by Google

fixed stations. The sub-stations are equipped with locally-built continuous wave valve transmitters rated at 20 watts input. The power supplied for the valves is furnished by a battery of Leclanche' type primary cells. The sub-stations are operated by Tongans who receive training locally. The new system has worked satisfactorily.

The following table shows the traffic handled during the year and the revenue received.

Station.	*Messages.*	*Received.*	*Despatched.*	*Revenue.*
				£
Nukualofa ...	Government	—	169	50
	Ordinary	1,381	1,483	431
Vavau	Government	52	43	26
	Ordinary	650	787	152
Ha'apai	Government	50	48	24
	Ordinary	457	532	103
Niuafoou	Government	32	25	27
	Ordinary	121	248	46
Niuatobutabu ...	Government	28	36	23
	Ordinary	66	122	20

Messages, 7,881; words, 92,173; revenue, £884.

The terminal charges of the Nukualofa radio for all Tongan stations is 6d. per word from abroad. The inter-insular charge is 4d.

There is a telephone system in Nukualofa which is administered by the Superintendent of Telegraphs. There are 84 subscribers.

The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure on wireless and telephone services during the year:—

	£
Revenue.—Wireless fees	884
Telephone fees	203
	£1,087
	£
Expenditure.—Personal emoluments	1,306
Other charges	595
	£1,901

The wireless operators in the sub-stations perform also the duties of district clerks and are paid from the vote of the department to which they are attached.

Fifty broadcast receiving licences were issued during the year. Australia, New Zealand, North American, Mexican, Japanese and Fiji stations are heard throughout the year provided weather conditions are not unfavourable. These stations are received from approximately 6 p.m., local time. Auckland is

Digitized by Google

received all day in the winter months. Fiji programme is received at any time the station is operating.

The main European, American, Japanese and Australian short wave stations are regularly received. The times of reception are early morning, late afternoon and night.

As regards the Empire Broadcasting Service the transmission best received locally is No. 4—the African Transmission. This is heard from the opening of the Transmission, 5.45 a.m. Tongan time, and held until about 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. in the Tongan hot and cool seasons, respectively.

Transmission No. 6 is heard from approximately 3.45 p.m. until 4.20 p.m. when the Transmission closes.

Transmission No. 1, which is intended for evening reception in the Pacific, is seldom received well locally, especially when the programme is not radiated until 8 a.m. G.M.T.

It can be stated that there is seldom a day throughout the year when it is not possible to receive the Empire news from either Transmission No. 4 or No. 6.

Posts.

Foreign mails were despatched throughout the year by Union Steamship Company boats and copra vessels.

Collectors of Customs at Nukualofa and Vavau act as postmasters at these ports. There are sub-post offices in some of the main villages of Tongatabu. British postal-orders are issued at the chief post offices. Money-orders are also issued. During the year the total value of stamps sold amounted to £1,132. Money-orders to a value of £1,862 were issued and orders to a value of £471 paid. Postal-orders issued and paid amounted in value to £272 and £13, respectively.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. The following statistics show the operations of the Bank since its institution:—

Year.	*Deposits.* £	*Withdrawals.* £
1926	3,495	558
1927	7,929	3,900
1928	12,341	9,717
1929	11,359	8,528
1930	23,689	14,228
1931	15,930	11,358
1932	19,763	15,546
1933	10,578	15,303
1934	17,649	18,797
1935	10,005	16,310
1936	12,519	10,967

Digitized by Google

The total amount at the credit of depositors at the end of the year was £20,050.

The number of depositors at the end of the year was:—

Tongans	1,253
Europeans and others	167

Interest at the rate of 2¾ per cent. was allowed on the first £500 deposited and at the rate of 2½ per cent. for an additional amount up to £1,000.

The invested funds of the Bank amount to £16,924.

There is no other Bank in Tonga.

There are no Building, Co-operative, or Friendly Societies.

Currency.

British and Australian coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919; at the present time notes to the value of £21,268 are in circulation. The issue is secured by an investment reserve. The Treasury Notes Act, 1935, adopts the exchange standard system based on Australian Currency.

Weights and Measures.

British weights and measures are, by Statute, the standard weights and measures of the country.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Works Department of the Government of Tonga has been reduced, for financial reasons, to a skeleton staff and now consists of an Engineer assisted by a Tongan staff. Works beyond the capacity of the Department are carried out by contractors from abroad or by arrangement with the Public Works Department of Fiji. The activities of the Department were confined to maintenance work on buildings and roads.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga, the British and the Tongan.

The British Agent holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. He is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. Under the provisions of the Treaty of 1900, jurisdiction in civil matters is exercised by the British Court over British subjects and foreigners. The British Court has jurisdiction in probate and divorce matters where British subjects and foreigners are parties. In criminal cases British subjects and foreigners charged with an offence against the laws of Tonga, not including crimes punishable by death or by imprisonment exceeding two years, are amenable to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Tonga. The reserved cases are justiciable in the British Court.

Digitized by Google

The jurisdiction of the British Court is exercised in conformity with the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893. The principles of British law, so far as circumstances admit, are applied. The judicial work of the British Agent is light. During the year two criminal and nine civil cases were heard and determined. No grants of probate or letters of administration issued.

The Courts of the Tongan Government have full jurisdiction over Tongans and the limited jurisdiction stated above over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases where the accused are Tongans, is provided for in the Constitution.

The Justice Department of the Government of Tonga consists of the Chief Justice, who acts also as Land Judge and as European Magistrate, and three Tongan Magistrates. The Supreme Court exercises jurisdiction in all civil cases in which the amount claimed exceeds £50 and in all criminal cases where the maximum penalty exceeds a fine of £50 or two years' imprisonment; other cases are heard in the Magistrates' Courts. Where the person charged is a European the case is heard and determined in the European Magistrate's Court if it comes within magisterial jurisdiction; other cases are tried by the Chief Justice sitting with two European assessors.

The Land Court Judge, sitting with a Tongan assessor, hears and determines land claims.

Serious crime among the Tongan people is of infrequent occurrence.

The following table shows the number of indictments which have been tried by the Chief Justice during the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of Indictments.*	*Convictions.*
1932	... 36	26
1933	... 22	14
1934	... 33	27
1935	... 28	24
1936	... 48	38

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard and determined in the Magistrates' Courts during the last five years:—

Year.	*Number of cases.*	*Convictions.*	*Acquittals.*
1932	3,361	2,263	868
1933	2,668	1,854	647
1934	3,334	2,274	821
1935	3,264	2,349	721
1936	3,362	2,421	727

Forty-one cases were committed for trial.

Digitized by Google

The majority of criminal cases heard in the Magistrates' Courts were for minor municipal and traffic offences.

The following table shows the number of convictions recorded during the last five years for the cases dealt with in the Magistrates' Courts other than municipal and traffic offences:—

Offence.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Theft	126	117	137	114	150
Trespass	4	23	44	33	77
Other offences against property	5	18	2	1	4
Assault	61	79	104	107	122
Fighting	12	16	31	34	25
Cruelty to animals ...	78	87	64	109	83

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows: fines, 2,220; imprisonment for non-payment of fines, 1,117; peremptory imprisonment, 157; whipping or whipping and imprisonment, 44.

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation among the Tongans. During the year four civil cases came before the Supreme Court and 2,340 actions were heard in the Magistrates' Courts.

There is an appeal from a Magistrate's decision to the Chief Justice in all civil cases and in every criminal case except when the defendant pleads guilty.

During the year the Chief Justice heard 31 appeals, 20 criminal and 11 civil. In the criminal appeals the sentences and fines imposed by the Magistrates were affirmed in 12 cases, six were remitted for rehearing, one was varied and one appeal was allowed. In the civil appeals the decisions of the Magistrates were upheld in six cases, a new trial was ordered in two cases, two cases were varied, and one appeal was allowed.

The Supreme Court heard nine cases in Divorce. Decrees absolute were granted in each case.

The Supreme Court in its probate jurisdiction granted letters of administration in 85 cases. The number of grants of probate or letters of administration which issued out of the Court during the last five years were as follows:—1932, 87; 1933, 97; 1934, 72; 1935, 67; and 1936, 85.

The total value of estates in 1936 was £8,331.

There are 20 Tongan lawyers practising in the Courts. Licences to practise are issued by the Chief Justice. There is no educational qualification imposed, but the Chief Justice has a discretionary power to refuse to issue a licence to undesirable persons.

Digitized by Google

Police.

The Police Department in in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Department has a strength of one European inspector, three Tongan inspectors, and 38 non-commissioned officers and men. The Tongan police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments.

The total expenditure of the force for all services was £4,136. The cost of the police per head of the population was 2s. 6d.

The number of persons prosecuted by the police for offences of all kinds during the last five years is as follows:—1932, 3,345; 1933, 2,531; 1934, 3,253; 1935, 2,942; 1936, 3,199. The great majority of these prosecutions were for offences of a trivial nature.

All traffic is controlled by the force, which carries out the registration of motor vehicles and the examination of drivers.

In addition to ordinary police duties the force is responsible for the inspection of villages and road frontages and the taking of the annual census.

Prisons.

The Minister of Police is in charge of the Prisons. There is a main gaol at Nukualofa with sub-gaols at Ha'apai, Vavau, and the two Niuas. There is also a sub-gaol on the Government Agricultural station at Vaikeli where prisoners grow foodstuffs for the Prison and Police Departments. Juvenile offenders are confined in the latter sub-gaol apart from adult prisoners. Crime among juveniles is very rare. All prisoners undergoing a sentence of over six months' imprisonment are confined in the Nukualofa gaol. The number of prisoners in custody on 1st January and 31st December in Nukualofa gaol was 57 and 105, respectively.

The main gaol at Nukualofa consists of two main wooden buildings, a women's gaol, and a hospital. There is no provision for the confinement of prisoners in separate cells.

The sub-gaols consist of small wooden buildings suitable for local requirements.

Prisoners are visited regularly by the Medical Officer. The health of prisoners throughout the year was satisfactory.

Prisoners may earn remission of sentence by industry accompanied by good conduct. The maximum remission for prisoners undergoing a first term of imprisonment is one-quarter of the sentence.

Orders for payments of fines made in the Magistrates' Courts are not enforced for 14 days after the making of the order.

Digitized by Google

If the law under which the order is made does not provide for imprisonment in default of payment a warrant of distress is then issued. In default of distress a warrant of commitment issues ordering a defendant to be imprisoned in respect of the sum still remaining unsatisfied by the distress for any term not exceeding the term specified in respect of a like sum in the scale of imprisonment provided in the Magistrates Act.

Provision is made in Tongan law for the probation of offenders when any person is convicted of an offence, and the Court is of opinion, having regard to the character, age, health or mental condition of the person charged, or to the trivial nature of the offence, or to the extenuating circumstances under which it was committed, that it is inexpedient to inflict any other than a nominal punishment, or that it is expedient to release the offender on probation, the Court may, in lieu of imposing a sentence of imprisonment, make an order discharging the offender conditionally on his entering into recognizance, with or without securities, to be of good behaviour and to appear for sentence when called upon at any time during such period not exceeding three years as may be specified in the order. When a probation order is made the Court is required to furnish the offender with a notice in writing stating in simple terms the conditions he is required to observe.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Fifteen Acts were passed at the 1936 Session of the Tongan Parliament. Important Acts were:—

The Treaty of Peace (Covenant of League of Nations) Acts, No. 1 and No. 2.—Applied economic sanctions against Italy.

The Savings Bank Act.—Follows the model ordinance drafted in 1935 by the Committee appointed by the Secretary of State to examine the Savings Banks systems in the Colonies.

The Dock Regulation Act.—Gives effect in Tonga to the Convention concerning the Protection against Accidents of Workers employed in Loading and Unloading Ships.

The Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act.—Brings local law into conformity with the International Convention for the suppression of Counterfeiting Currency.

The Education Films (Exemption from Duty) Act.—Enables the Convention for facilitating the International Circulation of Films of an Educational character to be applied to Tonga.

The other Acts and Regulations passed during the year call for no comment.

Digitized by Google

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Tongan financial year ends on 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1931-2	57,224	63,986
1932-3	64,072	60,347
1933-4	54,743	64,620
1934-5	61,654	55,515
1935-6	66,660	49,904

There is no public debt, and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds amounted to £150,475 (Tongan Currency). These funds are invested in New Zealand, Australia, Straits Settlements, Uganda, Northern Rhodesia, Kenya and Nigeria Stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand in Sydney and Auckland.

The main heads of taxation are the native tax, Customs dues, and trading licences.

The following table shows the yield of the Customs dues and native tax during the last five years:—

Year.	*Customs.*	*Native tax.*
	£	£
1931-2	20,496	9,491
1932-3	22,459	11,673
1933-4	20,181	9,437
1934-5	21,823	13,824
1935-6	25,710	13,401

The tariff was revised in 1933 so as to introduce preferential duties for goods of Empire origin. The general tariff is 20 per cent. *ad valorem*; the preferential rate is 12½ per cent. Specific duties are applied to a few articles.

The principal specific duties are as follows:—

Article.	*General Tariff.*	*British preferential Tariff.*
	s. d.	s. d.
Beer, per gal.	2 0	1 6
Benzine, per gal.	0 4	0 4
Cigarettes, per lb.	10 0	8 0
Flour, per 150 lb.	4 6	2 3
Kerosene of 150 degrees or over closed flash test, per gal.	0 3	0 3

Digitized by Google

Article.	*General Tariff.* s. d.	*British preferential Tariff.* s. d.
Spirits of all kinds, of which the strength can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and which is proof or overproof—per proof gal. ...	34 0	28 0
Spirits of all kinds, of which the strength can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and which is underproof—per liquid gal.	29 0	23 0
Sugar, per lb.	0 1	0 0½
Timber, undressed, per 100 sq. ft.	2 0	1 6
Timber, dressed, per 100 sq. ft.	2 6	2 0
Tobacco, manufactured, per lb.	7 0	5 0

The principal articles on the free list are:—
Bags, new, for copra.
Agricultural machinery and implements.
There is an export tax on copra of £1 per ton.
There are no excise duties.
The principal stamp duties on documents are:—

Agreement or memorandum of agreement (whether the same be evidence of a contract or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written document)—	
Where the value amounts to £1 but does not exceed £3	0 2
Where the value exceeds £3 but does not exceed £10	1 0
Where the value exceeds £10 then for every additional £10 and also for every part of £10 (but not to exceed 10s. on any such document)	2 0
Bill of lading and each copy	1 0
Bill of exchange—	
(1) Payable on demand or at sight or on presentation	0 2
(2) Payable otherwise than on demand, sight, or presentation, drawn or expressed to be payable in or actually paid or endorsed in any manner negotiated in the Kingdom—	
For any sum not exceeding £50 ...	1 0

Digitized by Google

	s.	d.
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50 ...	1	0
Promissory note of any kind (except a Bank note or Currency note)—		
For any sum not exceeding £5	0	2
Exceeding £5 but not exceeding £25 ...	0	6
For every additional £25 and also for every fractional part of £25	0	6
(Exemptions—All bills of exchange or promisory notes issued by any Bank for Government purposes to the Treasurer.)		
Lease or agreement for a lease or any written document for the tenancy or occupancy of any land or buildings—		
The following duties in respect of the rent at the rate per annum—		
Where the rent does not exceed £25	2	0
Where the rent exceeds £25 and does not exceed £50	5	0
Above £50, for every £50, and also for every fractional part of £50 ...	5	0
Conveyance or transfer—		
(1) Of any lease	5	0
(2) On sale of any goods whether included in a transfer of a lease or not for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2	0
Mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant—		
(1) Being the only or principal or primary security for the payment or repayment of any money not exceeding £50 ...	2	0
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2	0
(2) Transfer or assignment of any mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant, and also where any further money is added to the money secured.	(The same rate of duty as (1).)	
(3) Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional, or substituted security, or by way of further assurance for the above-mentioned purposes—		
Where the principal or primary security is duly stamped	2	0

Digitized by Google

	s.	d.
(4) Re-conveyance, release, or discharge of any such security as aforesaid or the benefit thereof, or of the money thereby secured	2	0
Receipt—		
Given for or upon the payment of money—		
Amounting to £2 or upwards but not exceeding £50	0	2
Exceeding £50 or upwards but not exceeding £100	0	4
Exceeding £100	0	6
(Exemptions—Receipts given for or upon the payment of money to or for the use of the Government of Tonga; receipts or discharges given by any person for the payment of wages or salary; receipts given for contributions for charitable institutions or religious bodies.)		

All male Tongans, when they attain the age of 16 years, pay a poll tax of 36s. per annum. The tax is paid in quarterly instalments. The yield of the tax during the last five years is set out above. A register of taxpayers is kept by the district tax clerk. This register is revised annually from a list of taxpayers prepared by the District Officer. The tax is paid to the district clerk by the taxpayer. Exemption from the tax may be granted on the grounds of old age or sickness.

There is no hut tax.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

The Tongan land system is, in many respects, unique.

In historic times the Tongan lived on his farm rather than in village communities; the communal land ownership which is met with in parts of the Pacific is unknown in Tonga. In the eighteenth century the troubled condition of the land drove the peasant proprietors to take refuge together in fortresses, and out of these fortresses the modern village has grown. The remains of many old trenches exist to-day. Although the necessity for living together for purposes of mutual protection disappeared in the middle of last century, the people did not revert to their old mode of life and the town is now an accepted part of Tongan polity.

Digitized by Google

The historic system of land tenure was feudal. The great chiefs held of the King and they sub-divided their land among their followers. Through the chiefs the King received tribute and they in turn exacted feudal dues from the people. In the first Constitution of Tonga, granted by the King over 50 years ago, it was expressly enacted that the Kingdom was the King's. The King, however, confirmed in their ancestral holdings the high chiefs and out of the royal and chiefs' estates holdings were granted to the people. In course of time a grant which was made in return for service in cash or kind became the right of the people and a law was passed which entitled every Tongan, when he became a taxpayer, to two holdings, a house site in the village, and tax lands in the bush.

It is not possible, within the limits of this report, to develop further the evolution of the Tongan land system; it is felt, however, that a brief reference to the system of the past is necessary before the present system of tenure is shortly described.

Every Tongan male, when he attains the age of 16 and thereby becomes a taxpayer, is entitled to a tax allotment of 8¼ acres in the bush and a town site not exceeding 132 feet square. He obtains the grant upon application to the Minister of Lands. The Minister makes the allotment from the estate of the chief on which the applicant resides. If land is not available on such estate the allotment is made from the estate of another chief who is willing to provide it. If no allotment is made under this latter provision Crown land is utilized. If the applicant is already resident on Crown land, the allotment is made therefrom in the first place.

The rental for the tax allotment is 8s. per annum. It is paid to the Crown or the chief according to where the allotment is made. No rent is charged for the village site.

Provision is made in the law for ejectment for the non-payment of rent or for the non-compliance with the planting section of the law. It is mandatory on every holder, as an incident of tenure, within one year of the grant to plant 200 coconut trees on his allotment, properly spaced as provided by law. Provision is made for the survey and registration of grants. Upon the death of a holder his widow is entitled to a life estate in the allotment and devolution is expressly provided for. No Tongan may hold two tax allotments, but he may obtain a lease of an extra area.

Provision was made in 1927 to enable a Tongan to receive, upon application being made, in lieu of the grants referred to an area of 12⅜ acres of tax land in the bush for which he pays a rental of 4s. If he obtains such allotment, he is not eligible for a town site. It was hoped by reducing the rental and

Digitized by Google

increasing the area to induce the people to live on the land rather than in the village. It was also hoped that Tongans who live in congested islands would transfer to other islands where the larger areas at the reduced rentals were available. So far only 42 applications have been received for the 12⅜ acre blocks.

Provision was made in 1934 to permit the chiefs, provided the Executive considered there was sufficient land available for the grant of the ordinary tax allotments of 8¼ acres, to grant on application made an area of 15 acres, in lieu of the grants referred to above, to Tongans resident on their estates. This area is made up as follows:—

(*a*) a tax allotment of 8¼ acres;

(*b*) a town allotment of 1¾ acres;

(*c*) a leased area of five acres for a period of 50 years at a nominal rental.

Grants on this basis have been made on an estate of one of the chiefs. The advantage of the new system is that taxpayers would live on their farms.

Without the consent of the Executive no chief or allotment holder may grant a lease or make any agreement in respect of his land. The mortgaging of growing crops is illegal.

It is a curious fact that many Tongans do not take advantage of their statutory right to land. There is no compulsion to apply. At the present time, according to records available, allotments are held by 6,030 taxpayers and 723 widows; there are 2,484 taxpayers who have not applied for an allotment. These persons live in towns or on their fathers' cultivated allotments to which they hope in time to succeed.

In other cases there is a disinclination to leave an island which is fully settled. Ample land is available for a full development of the land system and if every taxpayer were an allotment-holder approximately one-half of the area of the country would still be available for distribution.

The interest of a Tongan in land, whether he is a chief or a commoner, is a life estate. His ownership is limited in point of disposition; it possesses certain attributes of an estate in fee tail which the holder for life cannot bar. The land system is of interest as being an example of a system granted by law upon the polity of a people and becoming a leading feature of that polity.

The survey work performed by the Government surveyors consisted in demarcating tax and town allotments. Lease and road surveys were also carried out. The number of European leases in Tonga is 1,683 of a total area of 7,772 acres. The majority of the leases, apart from residences in the towns, consist of store sites and the small trading stations of the large commercial houses.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX A.

Meteorological Summary for the Year 1936.

Extremes and means for the year.

(Observations made at 2000 G.M.T.)

NUKUALOFA. (Lat. 21° 08′ S. Long. 175° 12′ W.)

Barometer :
Highest, 30·190 on 18th July.
Lowest, 29·420 on 6th February.
Mean, 29·929.

Humidity :
Highest, 99·0 per cent. on 7th January.
Lowest, 49·5 per cent. on 17th September.
Mean, 78·9 per cent.

Temperature :
Highest, 88·6° on 21st February.
Lowest, 53·0° on 5th September.
Mean, 74·2°.

Rainfall : 77·52 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 192.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 3·34 inches on 16th December.

Cyclonic disturbances : Gales : 17–19th January, 6th February and 25th August.

17th to 19th January, 1936: Lowest barometer 29·67. Wind E. to E.N.E. Maximum velocity 46 m.p.h.

6th February, 1936. Lowest barometer 29·03. Wind S. to S.W., calm for half an hour then S.S.E. to S.E. by S. Maximum velocity 54 m.p.h.

25th August, 1936. Lowest barometer 29·67. Wind E. to N.E. Maximum velocity 46 m.p.h.

HA'APAI. (Lat. 19° 49′ S. Long. 174° 21′ W.)

Barometer :
Highest, 30·155 on 18th July.
Lowest, 29·331 on 7th February.
Mean, 29·923.

Humidity :
Highest, 96·0 per cent. on 30th January and 6th and 7th February.
Lowest, 54·7 per cent. on 3rd June.
Mean, 79·4 per cent.

Temperature :
Highest, 91·0° on 28th January.
Lowest, 59·3° on 5th September.
Mean, 77·5°.

Rainfall : 68·84 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 164.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 5·55 inches on 1st April.

Cyclonic Disturbances : Gale : 6th–7th February.
Lowest barometer 29·22 inches. Wind S.W. by W. through west to N.W. Maximum velocity 46 m.p.h.

Digitized by Google

VAVAU. (Lat. 18° 39′ S. Long. 173° 59′ W.)

Barometer :
Highest, 30·113 on 7th June and 18th July.
Lowest, 29·142 on 7th February.
Mean, 29·916.

Humidity :
Highest, 99·5 per cent. on 21st March.
Lowest, 49·4 per cent. on 2nd September.
Mean, 77·6 per cent.

Temperature :
Highest, 89·0° on 16th and 18th March.
Lowest, 61·0° on 16th and 18th September.
Mean, 77·7°.

Rainfall : 76·18 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 216.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 5·15 inches on 3rd October.

Cyclonic disturbances : Gale : 7th February.
Lowest barometer 29·105. Wind N. through west to S.
Maximum velocity 40 m.p.h.

NIUATOBUTABU. (Lat. 15° 58′ S. Long. 173° 47′ W.)

Barometer :
Highest, 30·062 on 18th July.
Lowest, 29·081 on 18th January.
Mean, 29·884.

Humidity :
Highest, 99·0 per cent. on 3rd May, 15th July and 10th November.
Lowest, 59·6 per cent. on 17th September.
Mean, 81·4 per cent.

Temperature :
Highest, 90·2° on 24th March.
Lowest, 67·9° on 6th August.
Mean, 80·4°.

Rainfall : 84·83 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 174.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 3·43 inches on 25th May.

Cyclonic disturbances : Hurricane : 18th January.
Lowest barometer 29·024. Wind S.E. through east to E.N.E.
Maximum velocity 85 m.p.h.

NIUAFO'OU. (Lat. 15° 34′ S. Long. 173° 38′ W.)

Barometer :
Highest, 30·026 on 30th August.
Lowest, 29·506 on 7th February.
Mean, 29·866.

Humidity :
Highest, 98·5 per cent. on 3rd May.
Lowest, 62·5 per cent. on 27th June.
Mean, 82·2 per cent.

Digitized by Google

Temperature :
Highest, 91·5° on 30th March.
Lowest, 69·0° on 6th August and 16th September.
Mean, 80·9°.

Rainfall : 90·42 inches.

Number of days on which rain fell : 200.

Most rain in any 24-hour period : 5·30 inches on 28th December.

Cyclonic disturbances : Gale : 18th January.
Lowest barometer 29·428. Wind S. through west to N. Maximum velocity 39 m.p.h.

APPENDIX B.

Publications.

Mariner's Account of the Tonga Islands. J. Martin.	Murray. London. 1817.
Missionary Voyage of the Duff, commanded by Capt. James Wilson.	Chapman. London. 1799.
Account of a Voyage in search of La Perouse. J. J. de Labillardiere.	London. 1802.
Diversions of a Prime Minister, Sir B. H. Thomson.	Blackwood. London. 1894 (15s.).
Tongan Society. E. W. Gifford ...	Bishop Museum. Honolulu. 1929.
History and Geography of Tonga. A. H. Wood.	Government Printer. Tonga. 1932.
Annual Colonial Reports	H.M. Stationery Office.

(44368—48) Wt. 982—3879 625 10/37 P. St. G. 377/7

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935.

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. 0d. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent Chichester Street

or thro

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SEIRRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1817

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

West Ind

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1816

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. LUCIA, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1743 and 1761 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1937
Price 1s. 3d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937. [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street
MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, S[illegible]
BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
[illegible]kseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1816

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. LUCIA, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1743 and 1761 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1937
Price 1s. 3d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SAINT LUCIA FOR THE YEAR 1936

CONTENTS

CHAPTER.		PAGE.
I.	GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY	2
II.	GOVERNMENT	5
III.	POPULATION	5
IV.	HEALTH	5
V.	HOUSING	6
VI.	PRODUCTION	6
VII.	COMMERCE	10
VIII.	WAGES AND COST OF LIVING	12
IX.	EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS	13
X.	COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT	14
XI.	BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	16
XII.	PUBLIC WORKS	16
XIII.	JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS	17
XIV.	LEGISLATION	18
XV.	PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION	20
XVI.	MISCELLANEOUS	23
	APPENDIX	24
	MAP.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island. Castries and district have an estimated population of 20,302.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Southern
12-14-37
15-20 5

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries. The town and district contain an estimated population of 7,237. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situated at Ventine, two and a-half miles south-east of the town.

Climate.

The climate and general health of the island compare favourably with any of the other West Indian islands.

The mean noon temperature recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, for the year 1936 was 81·7° F. in the shade. The maximum was 91° F. and the minimum 61° F., a range of 30° F. The hot season extended from May to October, and the cool season from December to March. The hurricane season was bare of incident, and as usual over a long period of years, the periodical revolving storms had no serious local effect other than high winds and rain.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Gardens, Castries, for the year 1936, was 90·49 inches. This was 8·70 inches above that of the previous year and approximates to the average rainfall for 47 years (1890-1936), the average now being 90·73 inches per annum.

The maximum precipitation for Castries occurred on 2nd November, when a heavy fall of 5·55 inches was recorded, being the highest maximum for many years. The highest maximum precipitation for the Colony in general was 12·5 inches recorded on 22nd May. The distribution of rain was abnormal and irregular.

History.

At the period of its discovery St. Lucia was inhabited by the Caribs and continued in their possession until 1635, when it was granted by the King of France to MM. de L'Olive and Duplessis. In 1639 the English formed their first settlement, but in the following year the colonists were all murdered by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who in 1650 sold it for £1,600 to MM. Honel and Du Parquet. After repeated attempts by the Caribs to expel the French, the latter concluded a Treaty of Peace with them in 1660.

Digitized by Google

In 1663 Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia. The English continued in possession until the Peace of Breda in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was re-annexed to the Crown of France, and made a dependency of Martinique.

After the Peace of Utrecht, in 1713, the rival pretensions of England and France to the possession of St. Lucia resulted in open hostility. In 1718 the Regent, D'Orleans, made a grant of the island to Marshal d'Estrees, and in 1722 the King of England made a grant of it to the Duke of Montague. In the following year, however, a body of troops, despatched to St. Lucia by the Governor of Martinique, compelled the English settlers to evacuate the island and it was declared neutral.

In 1744 the French took advantage of the declaration of war to resume possession of St. Lucia, which they retained until the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748 when it was again declared neutral. In 1756, on the renewal of hostilities, the French put the island in a state of defence; but in 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton. In the following year, by the Treaty of Paris, it was assigned to France.

St. Lucia continued in the peaceable possession of the French until 1778, when effective measures were taken by the British for its conquest. In the early part of 1782 Rodney took up his station in Gros Islet Bay in St. Lucia with a fleet of 36 sail of the line, and it was from thence that he pursued Count de Grasse when he gained the memorable battle of 12th April in that year. This event was followed by the Peace of Versailles, and St. Lucia was once more restored to France.

In 1793, on the declaration of war against revolutionary France, the West Indies became the scene of a series of naval and military operations which resulted in the surrender of St. Lucia to the British arms on 4th April, 1794.

In 1796 the British Government despatched to the relief of their West Indian possessions a body of troops 12,000 strong under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, supported by a squadron under Admiral Sir Hugh Christian. On 26th April these forces appeared off St. Lucia and after an obstinate and sanguinary contest, which lasted till 26th May, the Republican party, which had been aided by insurgent slaves under Victor Hughes, laid down their arms and surrendered as prisoners of war.

The British retained possession of St. Lucia till 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on 22nd June, 1803, since which period it has continued under British rule.

Digitized by Google

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government is conducted by an Administrator (who is subordinate to the Governor of the Windward Islands), aided by an Executive Council. By an Order in Council dated 27th October, 1936, which came into operation on 18th December, 1936, the Legislative Council was reconstituted. The Council consists of the Governor, three ex-officio members (the Administrator, Attorney-General and Treasurer), and three nominated members and five elected members (one for each of three electoral districts and two members for a fourth district).

The Governor possesses reserve powers for ensuring the passage of legislation which he considers expedient in the interests of public faith or of good government, or in order to secure detailed control of the finances of the Island in certain circumstances.

III.—POPULATION.

The latest census, taken in 1921, showed the population to be 51,505.

On 31st December, 1935, the resident population of the Colony was computed at 64,959—males 31,132, females 33,827. By 31st December, 1936, the figure had increased to 66,230—males 31,838; females 34,392. The natural increase during 1936 was 1,137. The number of persons arriving in the Colony exceeded the number of departures by 134. The net increase in population was therefore 1,271.

The number of inhabitants of the Colony per square mile was 284.

The births (including still-births, which numbered 128) totalled 2,253—males 1,153, females 1,101. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 32·7 per thousand of the population—an increase of ·9 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The deaths (including still-births) numbered 1,116—males 522, females 594. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 15·2 per thousand of the population—a decrease of ·6 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The principal causes of death (other than still-births) were:—Heart disease, 177; nutritional diseases, 94; malaria, 85; syphilis, 77; senility, 64; tuberculosis, 56; diarrhoea and enteritis, 55; bronchitis, 44.

IV.—HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony was satisfactory throughout 1936.

There were 42 cases of enteric fever notified. Malaria fever was the chief public health problem as in previous years. There was an improvement in the incidence of this disease due to the constant activities of the Sanitation Department.

Digitized by Google

The medical staff consists of the Senior Medical Officer, who is the administrative and executive head of the Medical and Sanitary Departments; the Resident Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital, five District Medical Officers and one Supernumerary Medical Officer. The Medical Officer of District I is also Port Health Officer. The Sanitary Department is carried on by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and five Sanitary Inspectors.

The Medical institutions comprise the Victoria Hospital, situated in close proximity to the town of Castries; small casualty hospitals at Soufriere, Vieux-Fort and Dennery; a mental home at La Toc, near Castries; a leper asylum at Malgretoute, near Soufriere; and a papuer asylum near Soufriere. The staff of the Victoria Hospital consists of the Resident Surgeon, a European Matron, a Steward-Dispenser, an Assistant Dispenser, and nurses recruited locally. At this hospital there are six rooms available for private paying patients.

There is a quarantine station at Rat Island, a short distance from the mainland.

V.—HOUSING.

Several additions have been made to the number of new stores and general shops which have been erected since 1933, mainly in concrete, or concrete and wood. These have much improved the appearance of the business section of the town of Castries. The installation of electric light by the Castries Town Board has ameliorated living conditions considerably. Thirty-seven model cottages have been erected on the reclamation land in Castries and this has led to a marked improvement in the locality. This is increasingly reflected in the better type of private cottage now replacing the earlier wooden hut usually erected in the town area.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The staple crops of St. Lucia are sugar, coconuts and copra, limes, and cocoa, but increased attention is being given to the production of fruit, i.e., bananas, oranges, grapefruit, mangoes, avocado pears, and pineapples, for the Bermuda, American, Canadian and English markets.

Sugar.—In addition to the production of sugar by the large estates there are systems of sugar production by small proprietors known as the metayer and contributor systems.

In the metayer system the metayer is given as much land as he cares to cultivate; this area may vary from a quarter of an acre to as much as five acres. The metayer is provided with cane plants free of cost and is financed during the production of the crop; no interest is charged for the advances so made. When the crop is ready for harvesting the factory

Digitized by Google

claims one-third of the canes and purchases the remaining two-thirds at the current market rate which is approximately 5 per cent. of the market price for sugar.

The contributor system is a variant of the metayer system. In this system the cultivator uses his own land, frequently of considerable area, and sells the whole of his cane to the factory at current rates. Advances for cultivation are made by the factory usually free of interest, but the cultivator is not under the same obligation to sell his canes to the factory as is the metayer.

Of the sugar produced in St. Lucia about 500 tons is retained for the local market while the balance is exported to Great Britain and Canada.

The total crop production for 1936 was 8,117·6 tons of first and second sugars, of which 7,707 tons were exported. This compares very favourably with production for the previous year as given below, and constitutes a record. The production of molasses (not syrup) was also increased considerably, 280,951 gallons being made as against 256,900 gallons in 1935. There was again some difficulty in disposing of these products. A proportion of the molasses was utilized for the manufacture of rum for local use, and a considerable quantity still remained unsold at the end of the year. There was a revived export trade in rum.

The weather generally was unsettled to severe throughout the year and serious floods occurred. The crop for 1937 is however in a promising condition.

The total cane area is now approximately 4,000 acres, due to some reduction in the Vieux-Fort canefields and in syrup canes.

The average price for sugar showed a reduction of 2s. per ton on last year's prices and ranged from 8s. 6d. in February to 9s. 1½d. per cwt. c.i.f. raw preferential 96° in December.

The following figures show the quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years:—

Sugar (Vacuum Pan).

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1932	4,990	46,466
1933	4,940	46,493
1934	4,730	39,396
1935	6,080	48,377
1936	7,707	60,358

Molasses and Syrup.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gal.	*Value.* £
1932	32,988	1,453
1933	43,260	1,417
1934	23,080	1,431
1935	169,003	2,401
1936	107,128	1,132

Digitized by Google

Limes.—The exported lime crop of the Colony from January to December, 1936, estimated in barrels of limes, amounted to 22,569 barrels valued at £15,680 as compared with 38,189 barrels valued at £21,124 in 1935. To this estimate of crop has to be added a quantity of lime oils which has not yet been shipped, bringing the total estimated crop to some 42,000 barrels.

The export of concentrated juice decreased owing to low prices for this product. A larger volume of trade was done in raw lime juice, 34,171 gallons valued at £1,405 being exported. The production of distilled lime oil was again the feature of the crop, the quantity exported being 5,463 lb. valued at £6,091, as against 10,261 lb. for the previous year valued at £9,673. The market prices were stable, due largely to the co-operative shipments of oils, and remained at 22s. 6d. per lb. c.i.f. Hand-pressed oil was not in demand, 809 lb. being exported, valued at £1,047, as compared with 1,501 lb in 1935 valued at £2,517. Quotations remained at 35s. per lb. c.i.f.

The exported crops for the last five years in barrels of limes are:—

Year.	*Quantity.* Barrels.
1932	44,762
1933	44,019
1934	45,000
1935	38,189
1936	22,569

Coconuts.—This crop has now assumed the position of third staple industry, largely through the increased value of nuts shipped, the total quantity exported being 3,409,621 nuts valued at £9,608 as against 2,814,965 nuts valued at £7,632 in 1935.

The copra trade was progressively active, quotations being firm from September onwards when there was a marked improvement from £15 per ton to £21 17s. 6d. per ton c.i.f. The copra exported amounted to 306 tons valued at £3,561.

The following figures show the quantity and value of coconut and coconut products exported during the last five years:—

Coconuts.

Year.	*Quantity.* Number.	*Value.* £
1932	650,240	2,430
1933	1,199,808	3,527
1934	2,616,175	7,298
1935	2,814,965	7,632
1936	3,409,621	9,608

Copra.

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1932	432	5,389
1933	542	5,167
1934	302	2,592
1935	215	1,871
1936	306	3,561

Digitized by Google

Cocoa.—The cocoa market remained depressed until the middle of the year, when a steady improvement took place. Exports were increased to 6,538 cwt. valued at £9,627, consigned to Canada, the United Kingdom and Trinidad. More interest was shown by the Canadian market. Quotations ranged from 34s. 6d. to 55s. per cwt. c.i.f. London.

The quantity and value of cocoa exported during the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1932	8,188	9,091
1933	6,056	6,778
1934	6,349	6,032
1935	5,603	6,042
1936	6,538	9,627

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.—The cultivation of choice vegetables and salads such as cucumbers, tomatoes, cabbage, lettuce and carrots has continued mainly for local supply, and there has been no export trade in these commodities.

The fresh fruit trade has, however, maintained its position and in several respects has markedly improved, the principal exports being crated mangoes, crated avocado pears and bananas.

The exports of bananas increased from 60,439 bunches valued at £5,209 to 108,633 bunches valued at £8,910. The Banana Association continued to function satisfactorily, and paid 50c. per count bunch at the wharf. Transport conditions were difficult owing to heavy rains.

There was also some improvement in the mango export trade, and experimental shipments in cold storage were made to London. These gave a satisfactory return.

The total value of exports under this head amounted to £13,043 as compared with £9,391 in 1935 and is shown in detail below:—

Article.	*Quantity exported to.*					*Total.*	*Value.*	
	Canada.	*Bermuda.*	*U.K.*	*U.S.A.*	*Other places.*		*1935.* £	*1936.* £
Grapefruit... Cts.	223	57	1	—	4	285	35	84
Oranges ... ,,	9	28	—	—	89	126	91	30
Mangoes ... ,,	455	2,952	633	—	4,006	8,046	1,567	1,619
Avocado Pears ,,	14	3,320	—	—	2	3,336	709	504
Pineapples ,,	—	13	—	—	4	17	3	2
Bananas ... Bchs.	108,046	—	—	—	587	108,633	5,209	8,910
Miscellaneous ...	2	7	—	—	6,749	6,758	1,777	1,894
Total ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	9,391	13,043

Digitized by Google

A total of 14,939 packages of fruit, excluding bunches of bananas, was inspected for export by the Fruit Inspectors under the Fruit Ordinance, as compared with 15,248 in 1935.

Under the Colonial Development Fund Act, 1929, a grant of £2,000 was made in 1932 for the supply of planting material to citrus growers. This work has been completed.

The Murray Road and Land Settlement Schemes for which a grant of £9,219 and a loan of £9,219 at 3½ per cent. per annum for 15 years commencing from the sixth year was approved in August, 1935, were being revised at the end of the year.

Farm Stock.—Extensive use has been made of the Government breeding bulls and boars for services, and interest in better breeds of cattle and small animals is being stimulated. A breeding jack donkey for mares and asses and a pure-bred Sussex bull were imported for the Government Stock Farm during the year.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The state of the trade of the Colony, as reflected by the values and quantities of imports and exports during the year 1936, and as compared with 1935, was as follows:—

Imports.

	1936. £	1935. £
I. Food, drink, and tobacco	61,398	58,319
II. Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured	37,513	41,881
III. Materials wholly or mainly manufactured	93,382	95,873
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified articles ...	17	55
Totals	£192,310	£196,128

The above table shows a decrease of £3,818 in the total value of imports for 1936 as compared with the previous year, made up as follows:—Class II, £4,368; Class III, £2,491 and Class IV, £38.

Class I, however, shows a substantial increase (£3,079) due in some instances to higher prices as in the case of wheaten flour £600 and edible oil £500, but principally due to the increased importation of following items:—tobaccos £500, wines £400, medicines £300, sugar (unrefined) £300, confectionery £200 and onions and garlic £200.

The decreases under Classes II and III are accounted for by smaller importation of bunker coal and sugar machinery.

The values of imports for 1936 and 1935, classified according to country of origin, were as follows:—

	1936. £	1935. £
United Kingdom	109,262	120,337
Other British Countries	50,383	46,980
Foreign Countries	32,665	28,811
Totals	£192,310	£196,128

Digitized by Google

The value of imports from the United Kingdom decreased by £11,075, whereas that from other parts of the British Empire increased by £3,403.

Imports from foreign countries increased this year by £3,854.

The value of imports of articles amounting to £5,000 or more during 1936 and 1935 was as follows:—

Article.	1936. £	1935. £
Coal, bituminous	34,311	38,934
Cotton piece-goods	17,393	16,070
Fish, salted and pickled	6,576	6,695
Flour, wheaten	17,348	16,795
Oil, edible	6,187	5,611
Totals	£81,815	£84,105

Exports.

The values of exports in 1936, classified under five main divisions, were as follows:—

	1936. £	1935. £
I. Food, drink, and tobacco	104,764	83,905
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	9,571	8,104
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	12,049	17,157
IV. Miscellaneous	183	250
V. Bullion and Specie	10,134	2,330
Totals	£136,701	£111,746

There was a substantial increase of £24,955 in the total value of exports for 1936 as compared with the previous year. This increase is accounted for as follows:—

(1) Better prices for cocoa, coconuts and copra which yielded £3,600, £2,000 and £1,700 respectively, more than last year, and

(2) Larger exportations of sugar and bananas which brought in £12,000 and £3,700 respectively, more than last year.

The following table shows the character and individual values of the main exports:—

Article.	1936. £	1935. £
Cocoa	9,627	6,042
Limes and lime products	15,680	21,124
Fancy syrup and molasses	1,132	1,380
Sugar	60,358	48,377
Copra	3,561	1,871
Charcoal	3,265	3,367
Coconuts	9,608	7,632
Bananas	8,910	5,209
Other fresh fruits	4,132	4,104

Digitized by Google

The values of the exports, domestic and other, classified according to destination, were as follows:—

Exports (Merchandise).

Destination.	£	*Total. 1936.* £	*Total. 1935.* £
United Kingdom—			
Domestic exports	51,700		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie)...	318		
		52,018	21,645
Other British Countries—			
Domestic exports	54,551		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie)...	4,936		
		59,487	69,582
Foreign Countries—			
Domestic exports	14,107		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie)...	955		
		15,062	18,189
Totals		£126,567	£109,416

The values of supplies to ships during the last two years were as follows:—

	1936. £	1935. £
Bunker coal	48,005	41,590
Ships' stores	1,068	1,457
	£49,073	£43,047

Coaling.—The coaling trade, for which exceptional facilities exist for quick despatch to steamers calling for bunkers, showed an increase over that of 1935; 145 steamers took 38,227 tons of coal, as compared with 35,142 tons taken by 149 steamers in 1935.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard rates of wages for the labouring classes—agricultural, manual and artisan—now regulated by a Minimum Wage Ordinance, No. 5 of 1935, have been maintained during 1936, though estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week.

Ruling daily rates are:—

	For Men.	*For Women.*
Agricultural	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Manual	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Semi-skilled	1s. to 3s.	1s. 2d.
Skilled	3s. to 5s.	2s. to 3s.

Digitized by Google

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10s. and 16s. for housemaids and yard boys, 15s. to 20s. for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10s. per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows:—

	s.	d.	
Beef, fresh	0	7	per lb.
Mutton, fresh	0	8	per lb.
Pork, fresh	0	8	per lb.
Chicken	0	6	per lb.
Fish, fresh	0	5	per lb.
Eggs	1	0	per dozen.
Milk	0	2	per bottle.
Potatoes	0	2	per lb.
Rice	0	2	per lb.
Butter	1	10	per lb.
Sugar	0	2	per lb.
Bread	0	2	per lb.
Flour	0	2½	per lb.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary Education.

There are 47 recognized Primary Schools in the Colony. None of these are Government schools, the organization of education being on a denominational basis. The Government fixes the salary of Head Teachers, based on the personal qualifications and the average attendance of the school. Assistant teachers are paid by the school manager, to whom the Government makes a grant-in-aid, though in most cases the managers are unable to supplement such grant. During 1936 the Government paid a total of £5,068 8s. 4d. to the school managers towards salaries of teachers. £29 4s. 6d. was added to this sum by the managers. School buildings are the property of the local Church Vestries who estimated the rental values for 1936 at £1,519 5s.; and who spent a total of £471 3s. 3d. on repairs and furniture during the year.

Elementary agriculture is taught, and gardens are attached to most schools. The Agricultural Department supervises this work, and the standard is reasonably high.

Secondary Education.

There are two secondary schools, St. Mary's College for boys, under the direction of the Curé of Castries, who is assisted by an Advisory Committee to which the Government nominates three of the six members; and St. Joseph's Convent for Girls, managed and staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny.

Digitized by Google

Up to 12 scholarships at St. Mary's College are awarded by the Government to boys from the primary schools, and five for the girls at St. Joseph's Convent.

Both these schools are in receipt of an annual grant from the Government. In 1936, St. Mary's College received £450, and St. Joseph's Convent £175. In addition the Government makes maintenance and book grants to scholarship holders, amounting in 1936 to £33 11s. 4d.

The syllabus in each case is that of a normal secondary school, the London Matriculation and Cambridge University Local Examinations being taken by the pupils.

The Government offers a scholarship, of the annual value of £175 and tenable at a British University, in every alternate year. This is awarded on the results of the London Matriculation Examination (First Division).

Government scholarships at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad are also available, but owing to the lack of facilities for the study of science in the secondary schools, these scholarships are seldom sought.

Child Welfare.

The Child Welfare Association carried on its useful work with Mrs. Baynes as President, and Mrs. F. Floissac, M.B.E., as Honorary Secretary-Treasurer, assisted by a number of ladies.

The Association now has the services of a fully trained nurse who acts as a Health Visitor.

The Government supplies medicines and accommodation free of charge and Government Medical Officers supervise the clinics.

Various.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are established in St. Lucia; there are troops of both of these organizations in Castries and in the other towns and villages of the Colony.

Football, cricket and netball are the favourite games.

There are several social clubs in the Colony and in this respect the community is well provided.

There is a cinema in Castries which is equipped with talking pictures. The cinema building is built in concrete and is very commodious. There is a stage fitted, and the hall is occasionally used for public dances and amateur theatricals and also by itinerant entertainers.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.—The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,452, of a total tonnage of 2,037,180. Of this number 835 were steamships and 617 sailing vessels.

Digitized by Google

Mail communication is maintained by the following means:—

(1) A regular fortnightly service to and from Canada, the United States of America, and the British West Indian Colonies, by the Canadian National Steamships.

(2) A regular fortnightly service via Martinique to and from Europe and via Barbados and Trinidad to and from the Guianas, Venezuela, Colombia, and Colon, by the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

(3) A fortnightly service to and from the United States of America and some of the West Indian Islands by the steamers of the Furness West Indian Line.

(4) Communication with Canada, the United States of America and most of the West Indian Islands by the steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line and the American Caribbean Line, respectively.

(5) A four-weekly service direct to London by steamers of the Harrison Line and by the Booker Line, respectively.

(6) The former seaplane service to and from North and South America, touching at various British and foreign ports en route, by the planes of Pan-American Airways Incorporated was discontinued in November, 1935.

Post Office.—In addition to the General Post Office there are ten sub post offices in the country districts, four of which are also money order offices. Inland mails are regularly despatched by land and sea routes. Mails are sent by all steamers of the lines mentioned in the preceding paragraphs.

Roads.

The internal communications of this island are maintained by a system of roads and tracks, which are divided into three classes as follows:—

Main roads	62·50 miles.
Second class roads	88·00 ,,
Unclassified roads	230·00 ,,

Main roads and second class roads are those which can be used by motor vehicles.

Unclassified roads for the most part cannot be used by motor vehicles.

Motor-boat Service.

There are four coastal motor-boat services along the western, or leeward, coast of the Island. These services are operated by private concerns.

Telegraphs.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited.

Digitized by Google

Telephones.

The telephone system is maintained entirely by the Government and consists of nine exchanges situated in towns and villages. One hundred and sixteen miles of trunk lines connect these exchanges and 434 miles of branch lines serve subscribers.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banks.

A branch of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) is maintained in the Colony. It conducts all classes of banking business, including savings bank. There is also a Government Savings Bank with branches in the out-districts.

Currency.

British sterling is the currency of the Island. Barclays Bank, referred to above, issues currency notes which are covered by deposits with Government. Currency Notes of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago of one and two dollar denominations became legal tender under Ordinance No. 4 of 1936 from 1st May, 1936.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in St. Lucia, but land quantities are frequently expressed in a local unit of measurement know as a carré, equal to about three acres, 32 perches.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges, public buildings, wharves and jetties, the dredging of the harbour, the telephone system and the control of the Crown Lands. The Department also runs its own workshop, and maintains its road rollers, lorries and other machinery.

The expenditure for the year was:—

	£
Personal emoluments and other charges	4,040
Annually recurrent	10,756
Extraordinary	1,397

No new construction work of any magnitude was carried out.

A few minor works were, the Grognette Bridge, £905; extension of the Resident Surgeon's quarters, Victoria Hospital, £186; reconstruction of a portion of the Western Wharf in reinforced concrete, £199; and reconditioning of a building for a new Post Office, £183.

Digitized by Google

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The Chief Justice presides over the Royal Court which has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

In criminal cases tried in the Royal Court facts are decided upon by a jury of nine except in the case of a trial for a capital offence when the jury consists of twelve.

For magisterial cases the Island is divided into three judicial districts. The Chief Justice is also the Magistrate and Coroner of the First District and presides over Courts at Castries and Dennery.

The Magistrate and Coroner of the Second and Third Districts presides over Courts at Soufriere, Choiseul, Vieux-Fort, Micoud, and Anse-la-Raye.

The Chief Justice hears appeals from the Magistrate of the Second and Third Districts. A Commissioner for Appeals, who is also Assistant Magistrate, hears appeals from the First District Court and conducts preliminary inquiries into indictable cases that arise in this District.

A code of Civil Law, the authors of which were Sir G. W. Des Voeux, G.C.M.G., and Mr. James Armstrong, C.M.G., became law in October, 1879. This code was framed upon the principles of the ancient law of the Island, with such modifications as are required by existing circumstances. The Statute Law (Ordinances and Revised Rules and Orders) of the Colony was consolidated to 1916 by Mr. F. H. Coller, Chief Justice, with the assistance of Mr. J. Louis Devaux of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law. Mr. Devaux assisted in compiling the Ordinances and edited the Revised Rules and Orders, 1916. Mr. Coller also edited the Commercial Code, 1916.

The revising and editing of the Criminal Law and Procedure of the Colony by Mr. J. E. M. Salmon was completed during 1920 and proclaimed as the Criminal Code, 1920. It came into force on 1st January, 1921.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of the Courts and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary police duties, this force assists in the administration of poor relief, and provides the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery, which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

Digitized by Google

The total number of cases heard and of persons convicted of various crimes in the Colony over a period of five years is as follows:—

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Magistrate's Courts (cases heard) ...	1,657	1,826	1,755	1,551	1,861
Magistrate's Courts (convictions) ...	1,132	1,326	1,239	1,154	1,322
Royal Court (convictions) ...	22	14	13	6	6

The following table shows the number of offences dealt with by the Magistrates in 1936 as compared with 1935:—

	1935.	*1936.*
Offences against the person, including homicide...	362	335
Praedial larceny	147	170
Offences against property other than praedial	215	186
Other offences	827	1,170
Total number of offences reported...	1,551	1,861

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislative Council passed 23 Ordinances including one Appropriation Ordinance. The more important Ordinances were as follows:—

The Currency Notes (Trinidad) Ordinance, 1936, making Trinidad Government Currency Notes legal tender in St. Lucia;

The Loan Ordinance, 1936, authorizing the Governor to borrow from the Crown Agents £1,400 to pay for the former Bank Building (Barclays Bank, Dominion Colonial and Overseas) and £100 for incidental expenses to adapt the building for use as a Post Office;

The Customs Duties (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936, providing, *inter alia,* for the Legislative Council to alter Customs Tariffs from time to time without the necessity for the subsequent confirmation of its action by the passing of an Ordinance;

The Board of Education Ordinance, 1936, establishing a Board of Education for the Colony;

The Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance, 1936, modifying the procedure with respect to the jury, and to cases of Aggravated Assault and revising the qualifications of jurors;

The Petroleum Amendment Ordinance, 1936, fixing the flash point limit of petroleum at 73° Fahrenheit;

The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936, conferring upon the Governor in Council the power to remit in appropriate cases the whole or part of the income tax due by any person;

The Civil Code (Resealing of Probates) Amendment Ordinance, 1936, providing for the resealing of Probates;

Digitized by Google

The Customs Amendment Ordinance, 1936, vesting in the Treasurer a discretionary power to dispense with the giving of a bond by the owner of goods taken out of a bonded warehouse for exportation from the Colony;

The Liquor Licence Amendment Ordinance, 1936, providing for the exemption from Trade Duty of spirits taken out of bond for exportation from the Colony;

The Public Buildings (Insurance) Fund Abolition Ordinance, 1936, providing *inter alia* for the abolition of the Public Buildings (Insurance) Fund;

The Destruction of Court Records Ordinance, 1936, providing statutory authority for the destruction of Court Records;

The Guarantee Fund Amendment Ordinance, 1936, providing for the keeping by the Treasurer of a Register of persons who are required to give security in place of the schedule of such persons provided for in the principal Ordinance;

The Medical Registration Amendment Ordinance, 1936, making the Registrar of the Royal Court *ex officio* Medical Registrar, and providing, *inter alia,* for the erasure of names of deceased persons from the Medical Register;

The Whale Fishery (Repeal) Ordinance, 1936, repealing local legislation on the subject of whaling;

The Wireless Telegraphy Amendment Ordinance, 1936, enlarging the definition of "Wireless Telegraphy" in Ordinance No. 128, 1916 Revision, so as to include "Wireless Telephony";

The Royal Court (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936, abolishing the payment of personal fees to Bailiffs of the Royal Court.

There were a number of Statutory Rules and Orders issued dealing chiefly with administrative routine and the carrying out of the details of the provisions of various statutes. Royal Orders in Council were issued including, *inter alia,* Royal Orders relating to debts under the Treaty of Peace Act, 1919; the extension of the duration of the Legislative Council of the Colony; the load lines of Swedish ships; prohibiting the landing or flying of aircraft in or over prohibited areas; revoking certain Treaty of Peace Orders; applying to the British Colonies etc., certain Supplementary Conventions with Austria, Switzerland and Denmark making further provision for the reciprocal extradition of fugitive criminals; extending to certain Colonies etc., the provisions of the Whaling Industry (Regulaton) Act, 1934; making new provision in regard to the constitution of the Legislative Council. There were also issued, a Royal Proclamation declaring His Majesty's Pleasure touching His Royal Coronation and the Solemnity thereof; Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Realm constituting the Office of Governor and Commander in Chief of the Windward Islands; Additional Royal Instructions making new provision in regard to the constitution of the Executive Council.

Digitized by Google

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	*Local Revenue.*	*Total Revenue including Imperial Grants.*	*Local Expenditure.*	*Total Expenditure including Development Schemes.*
	£	£	£	£
1932 ...	79,713	130,207	79,626	96,278
1933 ...	72,569	92,816	81,002	94,732
1934 ...	75,229	85,079	84,532	90,953
1935 ...	79,872	96,146	86,000	87,959
1936 ...	100,018	101,018	87,433	91,150

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £117,606 5s. 3d. at the close of the year while the accumulated sinking fund towards its redemption amounted to £15,708 17s. 6d.

The Imperial grants received have been as follows:—

Year.	*In aid of Administration.*	*For Colonial Development.*	*Reparation Receipt.*
	£	£	£
1932 ...	35,300	15,194	3,956
1933 ...	2,500	17,747	—
1934 ...	8,000	1,850	—
1935 ...	14,000	2,274	—
1936 ...	1,000	3,717	—

The assets of the Colony at 31st December, 1936, amounting to £52,651 1s. 7d., were made up as follows:—

ASSETS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash—		
In hands of Treasurer	188 5 5	
,, ,, Sub-Accountants	374 13 3	
,, ,, Crown Agents (Current Account)	155 11 2	
At Barclays Bank (Current Account) ...	3,249 9 8	
		3,967 19 6
Investments—		
On account of Savings Bank	20,006 11 2	
,, Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,494 3 4	
,, Baron Trust Fund	109 12 9	
,, Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund	105 15 8	
,, Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund	150 10 10	
,, Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund	909 17 6	
,, Castries Town Board Building Fund	589 11 5	
,, Castries Town Board Electric Light Reserve Fund ...	89 0 11	
		23,455 3 7

Digitized by Google

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Loans—		
Castries Town Board for Streets (from Public Buildings Insurance Fund) ...	– – –	
Castries Town Board for Cemetery ...	49 14 5	
Castries Water Authority for Waterworks	100 0 0	
Village of Dennery for Waterworks ...	128 0 0	
Village of Choiseul for Market, etc. ...	7.10 0	
Village of Canaries for River-Wall ...	42 0 0	
Town of Vieux-Fort for Sea-Wall ...	154 0 0	
		481 4 5
Advances—		
Micoud Village Fund	274 5 1	
Anse-la-Raye Village Fund	174 5 1	
Choiseul Village Fund	93 4 3	
Packing and Crate Suspense Account ...	235 6 10	
Post Office Account	955 11 10	
Other Advances	3,077 3 0	
		4,809 16 1
Stores—		
Public Works Materials and Stores ...	2,654 17 5	
Colony Drug Store	569 5 8	
		3,224 3 1
Joint Colonial Fund		14,000 0 0
Drafts and Remittances Account ...		2,712 14 11
Total Assets...		£52,651 1 7

The liabilities of the Colony at 31st December, 1936, amounting to £36,622 6s. 7d. were as follows:—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Deposits—		
Savings Bank Depositors	23,378 2 1	
Interest, Baron Trust Money Account ...	142 2 0	
Sundry Deposits Account	3,243 1 9	
Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund ...	1,333 7 11	
Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund ...	105 15 8	
Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund ...	150 10 10	
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,538 13 1	
Distressed Emigrants' Fund	160 18 6	
Model Cottages Fund	344 2 8	
Castries Town Board Building Fund ...	589 11 5	
Castries Town Board Electric Light Reserve Fund	89 0 11	
Castries Electric Lights Fund	732 19 5	
		31,808 6 3
Special Funds—		
Towns and Villages	678 4 7	
Castries Fire Relief Loan Account ...	676 18 10	
Castries Waterworks Reconstruction Loan Account	144 7 7	
Castries Town Fund	2,422 0 5	
		3,921 11 5
St. Vincent Intercolonial Account		99 12 7
Grenada Intercolonial Account		792 16 4
Total Liabilities		£36,622 6 7

Digitized by Google

Taxation in St. Lucia is both direct and indirect. The main source of the former is Income-tax. Incomes under £100 per annum are free of tax, while the first £100 of incomes exceeding £100 is free from taxation; the remainder being taxed according to the following schedule:—

	s.	d.
For every pound of the first £100		4
For every pound of the next £200		6
For every pound of the next £300	1	0
For every pound of the next £400	1	6
For every pound of the next £500	2	3
For every pound of the next £500	3	0
For every pound of the next £500	3	9
For every pound of the next £500	4	6
For every pound of the next £500	5	6
For every pound of the rest of the chargeable income ...	5	6

A temporary surcharge of 12½ per cent. imposed is still in force.

Another source of direct taxation is a House Tax. This tax in the towns and villages is assessed and collected for the benefit of the particular town or village fund. In the rural districts the tax is assessed and collected by Government for the benefit of general revenue. In the case of the Rural House Tax, houses of a rental value of £5 and under are exempt; the remainder are taxed as follows:—

Of an annual rental of:

	s.	d.
Over £5 and not over £7 10s.	7	6
,, £7 10s. and not over £10	10	0
,, £10 and not over £12 10s.	15	0
,, £12 10s. and not over £15	20	0
,, £15 and not over £20	28	0
,, £20-£7 per cent. of the assessed rental value.		

In the case of towns and villages it is provided by Ordinance that the House Tax shall not exceed 8 per cent. of the assessed annual value of the house.

The principal source of indirect taxation is import duty. There is a preferential tariff on goods of Empire origin amounting to 50 per cent. Household goods to the value of £250 which have been in the possession of the importer for at least one year and which are imported for his personal use are admitted free. There are certain other specific exemptions, and the Governor in Council may exempt anything from duty upon good cause being shown.

There is an excise duty on rum, and a Stamp Duty Ordinance which provides for the stamping of the usual documents, &c.

There is an export duty on certain agricultural products, graded according to the f.o.b. value of the several commodities.

Digitized by Google

The yield from taxation in the years 1935 and 1936 was as follows:—

	1935.	1936.
	£	£
Import duties	42,281	44,064
Export duties	1,880	1,620
Port, harbour, etc., dues	2,665	2,292
Spirit licences	805	841
Distillery licences	163	164
Animals, vehicles and guns	770	912
Petroleum, cocoa, boats, etc.	791	721
Excise duty on rum	6,899	7,014
Trade duty on spirits	3,314	3,298
Stamp duty	1,713	1,008
Income tax	2,732	3,304
Succession duty	88	1,671
Rural house tax	1,015	740

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency Sir Selwyn McGregor Grier, K.C.M.G., late Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, left Grenada on vacation leave on the 7th June, 1936, and resumed the administration of the Windward Islands Government on his return to Grenada on the 14th October, 1936.

During the late Governor's absence on leave, His Honour Edward W. Baynes, C.B.E., Administrator, acted as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, and the Honourable G. H. Frith, Treasurer, acted as Administrator of St. Lucia. The Acting Governor left this Island on the 14th June, 1936, for Grenada, from which Island he administered the Government of the Windward Islands. He returned on the 17th September, 1936, to St. Lucia, where he continued to administer the Windward Islands Government until the return of the substantive Governor to duty.

The Administrator left this Island on short leave on the 14th December, 1936, and returned to duty on the 25th December, 1936.

The late Governor paid two visits to this Island in the course of the year, the 18th to the 23rd February, 1936, and the 6th to the 22nd March, 1936.

The following British ships of war visited this Island during the year:—

H.M.S. *Dundee* and *Frobisher* in February.
H.M.S. *York* in July.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX.

Bibliography.

(a) *Official or Semi-Official Publications.*

Name.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*	*Date.*	*Price.*
St. Lucia Gazette ...	—	St. Lucia Government Printing Office.	Weekly	12s. per annum, 6d. per copy.
St. Lucia Blue Book ...	—	Do.	Annually	10s.
Report by Sir Sydney Armitage-Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission to the Leeward Islands and St. Lucia. (Cmd. 3996.)	—	His Majesty's Stationery Office.	1932	2s.
West India Sugar Commission Report, 1929. (Cmd. 3517.)	—	Do.	1930	2s.
Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands and Windward Islands. Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Primary Education. (Colonial No. 79.)	—	Do.	1933	2s.
Year Book of the West Indies.	—	Thomas Skinner & Co., London.	Annually	7s. 6d.
The West India Committee Circular.	—	The West India Committee, London.	Fortnightly.	2 guineas per annum.
Government of the West Indies.	Hume Wrong	Clarendon Press ...	1923	—
Historical Geography of the British Colonies, Vol. II, West Indies.	Sir C. P. Lucas.	Clarendon Press ...	1905	7s. 6d.
History, Resources, and Progress of British West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	Pitman	1912	7s. 6d.
Pocket Guide to the West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	Sifton Praed & Co. Ltd.	1931	10s. 6d.
Handbook of the West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	West India Committee.	1929	5s. 6d.
(b) Descriptive Publications.				
English in the West Indies.	J. A. Froude	Longman, Green & Co.	1888	18s. 6d.
Cradle of the Deep ...	Sir Frederick Treves.	Smith, Elder & Co.	1908	12s.
A Wayfarer in the West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	West India Committee.	1928	8s.

Digitized by Google

(c) *Historical Publications.*

Name.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*	*Date.*	*Price.*
St. Lucia: Historical Statistical and Descriptive.	Henry H. Breen.	Longman Green, London.	—	—
Campaign in the West Indies in the year 1794.	Willyams ...	T. Bensley, London	1796	—
Chronological History of the West Indies.	Captain Thomas Southey.	Longman Rees; Orme Brown & Green.	1827	—
History of British Colonies in the West Indies.	Bryan Edwards.	John Stockdale ...	1793	—
History of Caribee Islands.	De Rochefort (translated by J. Davis).	—	1666	—
Nouveau Voyage aux Isles de l'Amerique.	J. B. Labat	Husson and others, La Haye.	1742	—
Pére Labat (1693–1705), Memoirs of.	(Translated by John Eaden.)	Constable & Co. ...	1931	7s. 6d.
The West Indies in 1837	Sturges and Harvey.	Hamilton	1838	8s. 6d.
West Indian Tales of Old.	Sir A. Aspinall.	Duckworth ...	1912	8s.

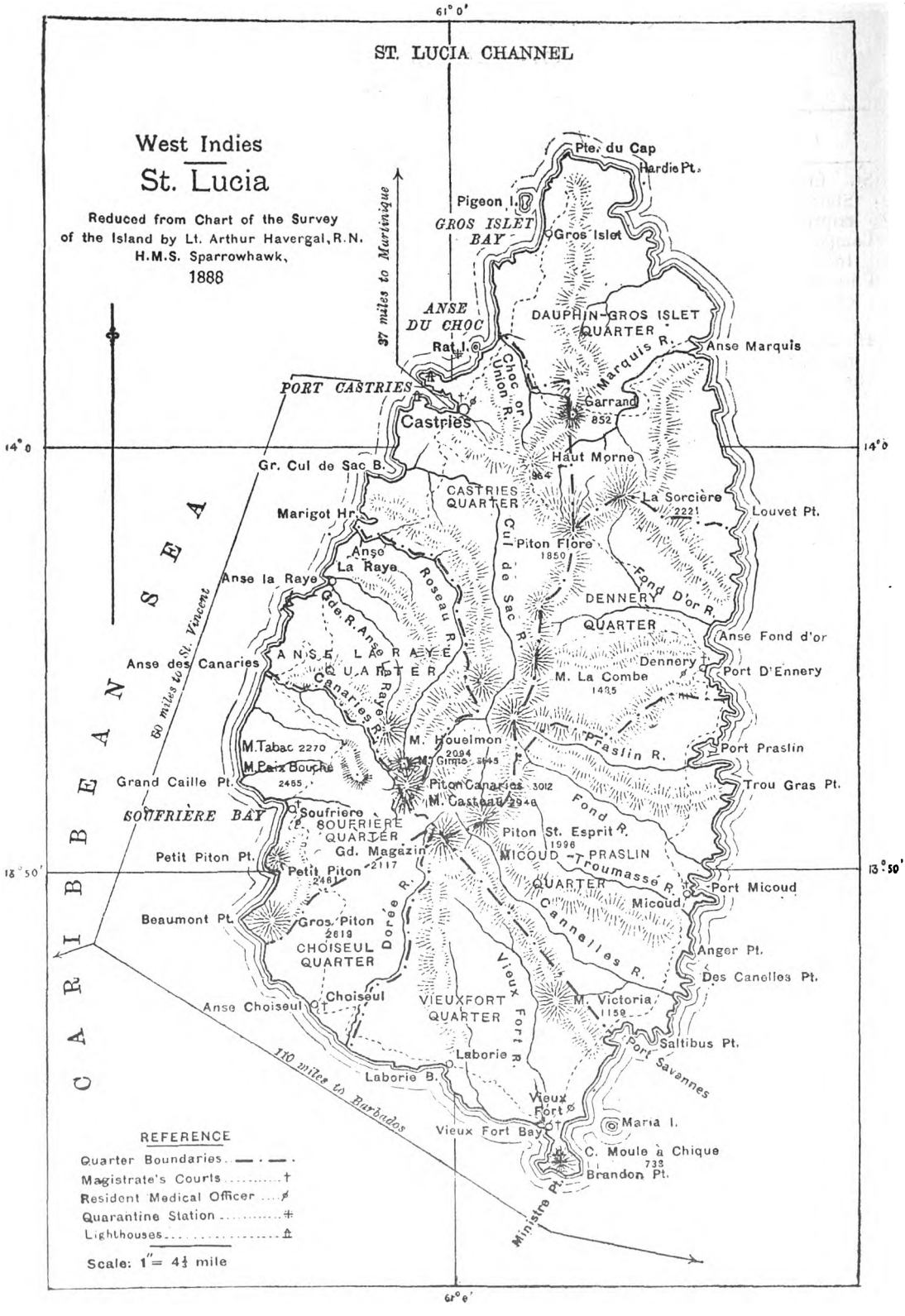
(d) *Scientific Publication.*

Obeah	H. J. Bell ...	Sampson Low ...	1889	2s. 6d.

(e) *Fiction.*

A West Indian Pepper-Pot.	Sir Reginald St. Johnston, K.C.M.G.	Philip Alan Co. ...	1928	10s. 6d.

Digitized by Google



(44716—48) Wt. 2173—3893 625 10/37 P. St. G. 377/ 7

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. od. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. od. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935.

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 os. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. od. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent Chester Street

or through

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SEIRRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1816

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
.G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1815

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

SOMALILAND, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1707 and 1758 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937
Price 1s. 3d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937. [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
[illegible]: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1815

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

SOMALILAND, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1707 and 1758 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937
Price 1s. 3d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SOMALILAND FOR 1936

CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
I.	GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY	2
II.	GOVERNMENT	5
III.	POPULATION...	6
IV.	HEALTH	6
V.	HOUSING	7
VI.	PRODUCTION...	8
VII.	COMMERCE	10
VIII.	WAGES AND COST OF LIVING	13
IX.	EDUCATION, WELFARE INSTITUTIONS, AND RECREATION ...	14
X.	COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT	15
XI.	BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	18
XII.	PUBLIC WORKS	18
XIII.	JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS	19
XIV.	LEGISLATION	21
XV.	PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION	22
XVI.	MISCELLANEOUS	26
	APPENDIX: PUBLICATIONS	29
	MAP.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden, and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude, close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North; thence with Ethiopia to near Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from near Jalelo to Loyi Ada (Hadu) on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. Topographically it consists of the following four main features, extending southwards from the coast-line:—

(*a*) An almost bare, gently rising, alluvial coastal plain ranging in breadth from about half a mile in the east to about 60 miles in the west: this is succeeded by

(*b*) a maritime plain, with a similar slope, on which are numerous broken ridges of limestone and hills of igneous rock, and which varies in breadth from a mile or two in

Digitized by Google

Brit. Govt. Pub.
Gotheram
12-14-37
15-2005

the east and west to about 30 miles in the middle. The native name for both the coastal and maritime plains is *Guban*.

(*c*) A vertical escarpment of limestone about 2,000 feet thick, resting on igneous rocks which, at the bottom of the scarp, form foothills and ridges up to 3,500 feet in height. The escarpment (native name *Golis*) trends roughly east and west, and is pronounced from the eastern boundary to a little west of the middle line of the Protectorate. Further west, it is largely replaced by ridges of igneous rock.

(*d*) From the top of the scarp, a long, wide, and almost featureless plateau (native name *Ogo*) slopes gently downwards to the south-east into the Haud, a belt of thorn wilderness and pasturages, extending into Ethiopian and Italian territory. Each of these four main features has its characteristic vegetation, dependent on climate and rainfall.

The maritime plain, with a hot climate and small rainfall, supports in places frankincense and myrrh trees. The ridges and foothills near the base of the escarpment, with a cooler climate and larger rainfall, are, especially in the eastern half of the country, partly covered with trees of *Acacia Verek*. On the top of the escarpment, at altitudes between 4,500 and 6,000 feet, a species of box (*Buxus Hildebrandtii*) is very common, especially in the Erigavo District. Some thirty miles west of Sheikh, this species flourishes on granitic hills at altitudes down to 3,500 feet.

At altitudes above 6,000 feet on top of the escarpment are patches of cedar (*Juniperus Procera*). In one locality, north-west of Erigavo, where the escarpment reaches a height of 7,500 feet, these trees form a small forest, and they have also been found at intervals almost up to the south-western boundary.

On the interior plateau, the average rainfall ranges from about 20 inches a year in the west to about 10 inches in the east and 8 inches in the south and south-east. The plateau consists in part of an open savannah of thorny acacias, in part of grass-covered plains; and though, over the greater part of it, the rainfall is low and the grazing is on the whole somewhat indifferent, this part of the Protectorate supports the bulk of the stock—camels, sheep, goats and cattle—on which most of the native population subsist.

On parts of the maritime plain, among the foothills of the escarpment, and, especially in the west, on several flats between the ridges to the north of the main escarpment, are areas of *Sansevieria Ehrenbergii* (*Hig*), a plant which is somewhat similar to sisal, and of which the fibre is considered to be of some commercial value.

Digitized by Google

Owing to the scanty water supply, the camel is the animal most suited to the country, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Zeilah, and Las Khoreh.

There are no hotels of any sort in the Protectorate. There are furnished rest-houses at Berbera, Burao, and Hargeisa, but only those at Berbera and Hargeisa provide messing facilities. There are no European private residents in British Somaliland, and it is necessary for all intending visitors to obtain permission from the Secretary to the Government to enter the Protectorate. It is essential for such visitors to arrive completely self-contained, unless they have made arrangements privately for accommodation with officers of the Protectorate.

Climate.

Somaliland has a small but fairly regular rainfall. The dry season lasts from December to March, during which period there is practically no rain. The big rains fall during April and May and they are succeeded by the south-west monsoon (called locally the *kharif*), which blows from June till October —the hottest period of the year. The *kharif* is very trying to Europeans, particularly on the coast, where the heat and dust make concentrated work difficult.

On the higher ground in the interior the heat is at no time intolerable, and the nights are generally cool.

From November to March the climate is quite pleasant, the heat on the coast being tempered by the sea breeze.

The rainfalls in the country are very local, and consequently there is often considerable variation in local conditions as to grazing, rainpools, etc.

The meteorological statistics are as follows:—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Absolute Maximum.*	*Absolute Minimum.*	*Total Rainfall for previous four years.*			
	1936.					*1935.*	*1934.*	*1933.*	*1932.*
	Inches	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	2·43	92·6	77·6	110·0	64·0	6·20	1·70	0·86	2·20
Sheikh ...	17·76	70·4	47·6	80·0	35·0	16·58	18·17	17·07	18·79
Burao ...	9·16	86·2	63·6	97·0	50·0	7·26	5·67	5·58	5·58
Hargeisa...	19·26	85·0	56·2	97·0	35·0	18·26	15·19	12·42	15·28
Zeilah ...	0·50	91·1	76·6	108·0	63·0	3·29	5·46	2·05	8·12
Borama ...	26·52	82·3	58·2	94·0	38·0	25·99	18·37	15·90	25·99
Erigavo ...	13·19	77·8	50·3	86·0	31·0	13·53	12·53	9·81	11·07

N.B.—Highest velocity of wind recorded in Berbera during the year 1936 was 63 miles per hour on 24th June.

Digitized by Google

History.

Prior to 1884 the administration of the Somali Coast had been in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in 1884, a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain, and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Ethiopia. Until 1898 the Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India. In that year it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office, and on 1st April, 1905, to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920 the history of the Protectorate is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed bin Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902, and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January, 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

In 1908, a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March, 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three ports of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912-3 the strict coastal concentration was abandoned and administration in the interior was gradually resumed. From 1914 desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces scattered the Mullah and his followers, and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled into Ethiopia, where he died in February, 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful with the exception of inter-tribal cattle raids both in the Protectorate and outside its borders. As indulgence in these is the hereditary pastime of all Somalis, they need not be regarded very seriously, since they can be checked, and are being checked, by extension of administration.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Protectorate is administered by the Governor and, in his absence, by the Secretary to the Government. There is neither Executive nor Legislative Council. The powers of the Governor are defined in the Somaliland Orders in Council, 1929 to 1935.

Departments of Government.

The Governor's office and Secretariat are at Sheikh, and the headquarters of the Treasury and Customs, Police and Prisons, Medical, Posts and Telegraphs, and Public Works Departments are at Berbera. The Veterinary and Agricultural Officer is stationed at Burao.

Digitized by Google

District Administration.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate has been divided into five districts, each of which is in charge of a District Officer. The five districts are Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah. The headquarters of the Zeilah District are at Borama.

Military Garrison.

The Military Garrison of the Protectorate consists of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, with headquarters at Burao and a detachment at Hargeisa.

III.—POPULATION.

The Somali population is estimated at 344,700. According to the non-native census taken in April, 1931, the non-native population was 2,683, including 68 Europeans, 520 Indians, 1,614 Arabs, 100 Ethiopians, and 258 Nyasaland natives of the Somaliland Camel Corps.

IV.—HEALTH.

The staff of the Medical Department of the Protectorate consists of a Senior Medical Officer, four Medical Officers, three Assistant Surgeons, three Sub-Assistant Surgeons, two clerks and a subordinate staff.

Well equipped hospitals for natives only are established at Berbera, Burao, Hargeisa, Borama and Erigavo with smaller ones at Sheikh and Zeilah, and a Dispensary at Las Khoreh. There is no hospital accommodation for Europeans and only a limited number of beds for Asiatics, which are in the Berbera Native hospital.

A total of 49,147 out-patients and 2,713 in-patients were treated during 1936 as compared with 48,951 and 3,125 respectively in the previous year. The fall in the in-patient figure is largely accounted for by a reduction in Berbera, but with the exception of that hospital, which serves a floating population, the available accommodation is fully utilized.

Malaria again occurred in epidemic form in the Ain and Nogal areas. The type of fever among the natives in these epidemics is severe, but the outbreaks tend to be localized to certain areas and can be readily controlled.

The incidence of relapsing fever in Burao has attained serious proportions, 618 cases having been treated there during the year. Control is difficult as the permanent buildings in the town are old and badly floored, but conditions are being gradually improved as far as possible; also, with the changing of the site of the large settlement area where the natives live in temporary structures, a considerable reduction in the case incidence can be expected.

Digitized by Google

Smallpox remains endemic, especially in the Burao District, but there has been a reduction in numbers of cases this year. In all there were 152 cases with 7 deaths as compared with 243 cases and 23 deaths in 1935.

Berbera Lunatic Asylum is built in the form of a hollow square with cells and offices enclosing a space, the centre of which is occupied by a shade pavilion for the inmates. All the confinement cells are of suitable size and there is adequate office and treatment accommodation. There were ten patients remaining on the 1st January, 1936, nine were admitted during the year, six discharged as cured or improved, and one died.

Leprosy patients are treated in a compulsory segregation camp in Berbera. The buildings are permanent masonry structures with cement floors and adequate ventilation. The patients do no set work but they maintain their own compound and the roads leading to it. There were 29 patients on the 1st January, 1936; seven were admitted during the year, one died, and four absconded.

There have been no cases of rabies in 1936, but there still remains the danger from rabid animals, particularly on the western frontier. A stock of anti-rabic vaccine is held, and all cases in which there is any suspicion are given a course of protective injections.

As no European dentist is available in the Protectorate all European and non-European officers are permitted to visit Aden for dental treatment at Government expense. Such treatment is subject to an officer obtaining a medical certificate to the effect that it is necessary and cannot be postponed without detriment to his health.

V.—HOUSING.

The normal Somali dwelling is the *gurgi*, a dome-shaped hut constructed of pliable stick framework and covered with mats. The *gurgi* is movable and can be readily dismantled and packed on camels when a change of ground for any reason becomes necessary.

In the towns the trading Somali and the poorer class of Indian may sometimes be found living in an *arish* (wattle and daub hut).

The indiscriminate setting up of *gurgis* and other temporary dwellings within townships is not permitted, and is controlled by the District Officers, who may set aside areas in which such temporary habitations may be installed.

Government officers are housed in well-built stone and plaster houses. Berbera is the only town with a pipe-borne water supply available for public use, but water is laid on to Government quarters in Sheikh and Burao. In other stations, the sanitary arrangements are of a primitive, though satisfactory, character.

Digitized by Google

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

The Agricultural and Geological Department was abolished in 1934, and agriculture is now under the general supervision of the Veterinary and Agricultural Officer. Agriculture is chiefly confined to the western half of the Protectorate, *viz.*, the Hargeisa and Borama Districts, in a strip of country about eighty miles long and ranging in width from two to fifteen miles, with an average rainfall of about seventeen inches. Latterly it has been extending in parts of the plateau country in the centre of the Protectorate at Adadleh and between Hahi and Oadweina.

There are no plantations owned or managed by Europeans in the country, and all efforts at improving native agriculture have to be carried out by the Government. The main crops produced are sorghum and maize, but gram, barley, and wheat (an Ethiopian variety) are also grown.

No locusts swarms of any magnitude visited the Protectorate during 1936.

Water-boring.

In the Tug Wajaleh area two storage tanks were erected at the beginning of the year. The necessary piping was laid down and a trough of concrete and cement, capable of holding 1,000 gallons, was built and connected to the tanks. The installation was handed over to the Public Works Department in April.

In regard to supplies at Ainabo, arrangements were made to have the new shaft sunk at least to the depth of the bottom of the old well, the old well thoroughly cleaned out and a protecting wall placed round the mouth, and to have periodic tests made of the rate of supply in the new shaft.

The old well at Garrero was cleaned out and deepened, the supply thereby being increased from a few gallons to 200 gallons an hour. This well also was protected by a low wall.

A scheme was drawn up for improving the supplies by administrative action at El Dab. A report was made on the possibilities of obtaining a permanent supply at Bohotleh by deep well-sinking.

Estimates were prepared showing the details and costs of a suitable installation at Ainabo.

A report was prepared giving the results achieved during the tour, and a programme of work for the ensuing tour was drawn up. As agreed upon with the consulting engineers, it was recommended that an experienced well-sinker should be appointed to the scheme, his duties to comprise (*a*) sinking shallow wells chiefly in the eastern part of the Protectorate in localities where either no water now exists or present supplies are inaccessible, (*b*) training a native staff which will ultimately be at the disposal of administrative officers. Arrangements

Digitized by Google

were made for expert advice, and, where necessary, the assistance of the well-sinker, to be given to administrative officers in the improvement of existing well supplies.

The members of the water-boring scheme were on leave from May until September. The new engineer and the well-sinker did not, however, arrive until the end of October. Since their return, the motor transport has been more or less reconditioned. The well-sinker, after gaining necessary experience of local conditions while attached to the driller, has been engaged in sinking two wells on the native-town side of the nullah at Burao with the object of obtaining a sufficient water supply for the natives in the town, which will be quite distinct from the supply to the European quarters and Government establishments on the other side. A supply has already been found in one of the wells and this will be tested further by the use of the hand-rig. On completion of these two wells, he has been started on well-sinking at Kirrit in the area of the main gypsum series and of the collapsed gypsum depressions.

The driller completed a bore-hole at Hargeisa to 202 feet. Water was struck at 19-24 feet and again at 77-85 feet, and the proved supply after prolonged bailing and pumping tests is not less than 1,000 gallons an hour. An effort is being made by him to obtain, on another site, a supply, exclusive of that from the top stratum, which will of itself be in the neighbourhood of 1,000 gallons an hour. The second hole was nearing completion at the end of the year.

Veterinary.

No widespread outbreaks of disease have occurred.

In spite of the prevalence of rinderpest in Ethiopia local preventive measures have kept the Protectorate free of this disease.

Cases of foot and mouth disease and of pleuro-pneumonia of cattle have occurred in the Borama and Hargeisa districts, probably due to infection brought over from Ethiopia.

Contagious pleuro-pneumonia caused heavy mortality amongst the native flocks of goats.

There have been no cases of trypanosomiasis (native name: *surra*) in the camels of the Somaliland Camel Corps, but native herds have suffered great losses from this disease. Injections with Naganol continue to prove popular and efficacious, but the cause of the disease has not yet been definitely established.

Sarcoptic mange of sheep and camels has been prevalent, and the treatment of this disease with coal tar disinfectant has proved popular.

Occasional cases of horse sickness or anthrax have been seen. No cases of rabies has been confirmed though existence of rabies in the game area is most probable.

Digitized by Google

The numbers of native stock are estimated to be 1,500,000 camels, 2,500,000 sheep, 2,000,000 goats, 30,000 cattle, 2,000 donkeys and 1,000 horses.

Fisheries.

Although tropical fish of every variety, such as shark, great and small rays, barracuda and other sphyraenae, durab or wolf-herring, dolphins, sea perches, sword-fish, rock cod, different species of sardinella, tunny, mullets, horse-mackerel, king-fish, crawfish, and bêche-de-mer (trepang) are abundant, yet the few natives engaged in the fishery industry use only a handline with a single hook for trolling and bottom fishing and a light casting net to obtain bait. There is no co-operation between them and they sail out in their canoes to the fishing grounds only when dire necessity compels them. If one is exceptionally successful and realizes a substantial profit, he ceases to labour for as many days as it would have taken him to accumulate this sum from his average daily earnings. Consequently, the local supply of fish on sale in the towns is considerably less than the actual demand. A few passing shark-fishing dhows, manned by Arabs, Sudanese, and Dankalis, occasionally stop at the ports to net sharks in the harbour and in the deep sea. After completing the operation of salting the fins for the Chinese market and the flesh for the consumption of their countrymen, and extracting the "*seefa*" or liver oil which is used for caulking native craft, they resume their voyage.

Since foreign dhows have been excluded from fishing within the French and Italian territorial waters, a number of native smacks have been withdrawn from the mother-of-pearl and trochee shell fisheries. Within the limit to which the divers are now restricted, they cannot collect a sufficient quantity to realize a profit. Although the gamble of obtaining a valuable gem after opening thousands of mother-of-pearl shells always will be an incentive to engage in the industry, yet it is from the sale of the empty shells that the divers derive their maintenance.

Licences to fish and to dive for pearls are obligatory upon all fishermen other than natives of British Somaliland or persons ordinarily resident therein. The rates are Rs.50 and Rs.100 per annum respectively. These licences were introduced by the Fisheries Ordinance, 1934, to regulate the activities of visiting foreign fishermen in the territorial waters of the Protectorate.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Customs.

The value of the Protectorate trade during the year 1936 was Rs.82,75,397 compared with Rs.53,26,507 in 1935. The

Digitized by Google

following comparative table shows the value of imports and exports excluding specie for the last five years:—

Year.	*Imports.* Rs.	*Exports.* Rs.	*Total.* Rs.
1932	40,77,827	21,42,030	62,19,857
1933	37,88,671*	19,54,166*	57,42,837*
1934	35,80,851*	18,32,397*	54,13,248*
1935	36,27,046*	16,99,461*	53,26,507*
1936	56,69,801*	26,05,596*	82,75,397*

* Exclusive of goods in transit previously included.

Imports.

The import trade during 1936 was distributed in the following proportions between the Protectorate ports:—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	48,10,097	77·5	78·0	75·2	78·1	84·9
Zeilah ...	6,59,326	12·6	16·4	17·7	15·1	11·6
Makhir Coast	2,00,378	9·9	5·6	7·1	6·8	3·5

The following were the commodities principally comprising the Import trade:—

Article.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1932.*	*1933.**	*1934.**	*1935.**	*1936.**
Grey Sheeting.	Russia.	Yards	—	7,200	8,050	4,155	—
	Japan.	,,	1,939,687	694,263	545,426	406,548	297,734
	United Kingdom.	,,	—	—	1,830	7,059	—
	India.	,,	—	—	—	286,450	849,870
Long Cloth.	United Kingdom.	,,	930,468	618,928	637,178	837,549	1,932,859
	Japan.	,,	297,086	42,370	65,322	76,468	65,125
	Russia.	,,	—	—	—	—	882
	India.	,,	—	—	—	—	25
	Other Foreign.	,,	—	—	—	—	40
Dates ...	Persian Gulf.	Cwt.	81,588	43,125	42,866	49,207	51,684
Rice ...	India.	,,	100,182	160,215	166,550	123,654	153,851
	Siam.	,,	—	—	—	—	16,425
Sugar ...	United Kingdom.	,,	—	61,848	55,346	62,481	98,206
	Java.	,,	54,267	196	646	1,360	781
	Italy.	,,	—	—	4,550	20	80
	Holland.	,,	—	—	—	—	50
	Germany.	,,	—	—	—	—	52
	Russia.	,,	—	—	—	—	1,081

* Exclusive of goods-in-transit previously included.

Digitized by Google

The system of import quotas for textile goods of other than British manufacture which was introduced in 1934 was continued throughout 1936. The commodity principally affected has been, as previously, grey sheeting, of which the quotas for the year were 406,848 yards of Japanese manufacture and 17,536 yards of any other foreign manufacture.

Exports.

The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.129,391, amounted to Rs.2,605,596 and distributed in the following proportions between the Protectorate ports:—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	18,08,938	70·3	68·3	62·9	61·6	69·4
Zeilah ...	6,43,687	21·6	25·4	31·7	29·4	24·7
Makhir Coast	1,52,971	8·1	6·3	5·4	9·0	5·9

The following were the main indigenous products shipped from the Protectorate:—

Article.	*Country of destination.*	*Unit.*	*1932.*	*1933.**	*1934.**	*1935.**	*1936.**
Bullocks	Aden and Suez	Nos.	756	1,086	884	1,847	1,366
Sheep and Goats.	Aden and Mukalla.	,,	136,497	120,189	95,127	88,866	104,663
Skins (sheep and goats).	Europe and America *via* Aden.	,,	1,079,796	1,715,750	1,848,953	1,099,887	1,301,419
Hides ...	Aden ...	Cwt.	—	—	30	13	7
Gums and Resins.	Europe and India *via* Aden.	,,	16,669	8,467	7,329	13,176	11,938
Ghee ...	Aden	,,	5,913	1,643	534	1,712	2,960

* Exclusive of goods-in-transit previously included.

Land Customs.

ZEILAH.

The export statistics of the Land Customs station for the years 1932-6 are as under:—

Item.	*Unit.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Horses	Nos.	13	28	31	6	27
Camels	,,	297	455	616	830	650
Donkeys	,,	4	20	5	9	30
Cattle	,,	275	569	371	862	806
Sheep and Goats ...	,,	20,737	20,600	13,197	9,834	13,799
Salt	Cwt.	39,219	53,765	62,822	51,275	29,198

Digitized by Google

Salt.—The following table shows the working of the Zeilah salt industry for the period from 1932-6:—

Year.	*Quantity Exported.*		
	By land.	*By sea.*	*Total.*
	Cwt.	*Cwt.*	*Cwt.*
1932	39,219	845	40,064
1933	53,765	318	54,083
1934	62,822	394	63,216
1935	51,275	980	52,255
1936	29,198	500	29,698

The bulk of salt exports are sent overland from Zeilah to Ethiopia.

HARGEISA AND BORAMA.

At Hargeisa duty amounting to Rs.1,077-2-0 was collected on 3,435 akaras or bundles of kat (*Katha Edulis*) imported from Abyssinia, and at Borama differential duty to the amount ot Rs.492-8-0 was paid on goods originally imported at Zeilah by sea. In 1935 the corresponding items were Rs.547-13-0 (1,748 akaras) and Rs.21-11-0.

Transit Trade.

Customs duty at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on merchandise in transit through the Protectorate to and from Ethiopia. The value of goods so imported and exported since 1932 was:—

	Rs.
1932	10,77,347
1933	11,54,051
1934	13,73,287
1935	17,22,707
1936*	6,10,520

* The transit trade proper collapsed during May, 1936, on the military occupation of Ethiopia by Italy, and, as is explained in Section XV of the reports, goods imported for re-export to Ethiopia became subject to ordinary rates of customs duty.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The few Somalis who work for their living are employed either as coolies, clerks, and subordinates in Government Departments, or as personal servants. The approximate wages of the various types are:—

Coolies, 8 annas a day (8 hours).
Clerks, Rs.40 to Rs.350 a month (according to grade).
Personal servants, Rs.15 to Rs.45 a month.
Motor drivers, Rs.35 to Rs.100 a month.

The staple food of the Somali in Government or private employ is a daily ration composed of 1 lb. rice, ½ lb. dates, and 2 ounces of ghee, the value of which is usually about 3 annas.

The average cost of living for Europeans is about Rs.5 (7s. 6d.) a head *per diem* for a married couple. For one adult

Digitized by Google

the cost would be relatively high. The figure given does not include servants' wages, cost of entertaining, or club expenses.

IX.—EDUCATION, WELFARE INSTITUTIONS, AND RECREATION.

Education.

There have been indications during the last few years that the instinctive opposition of the Somalis to secular education for their children is losing strength. The Education Scheme, commenced in 1930 and referred to in previous reports, has been productive, so far, of meagre results. This scheme requires the co-operation of the Somalis, and it is noticeable that the monetary grants to certain Koranic schools are now applied more seriously than in the past to the furtherance of education. During 1936 small grants of money and school materials were made to the Koranic schools at Zeilah, Berbera, Borama, Hargeisa and Burao.

There are three Somali boys being educated at Gordon College, Khartoum (partly at Government expense and partly at the expense of the relatives of the boys).

There is a small Government elementary school in Berbera, attended by Somali, Arab and Indian children. Increased facilities for education at Berbera and at other towns in the Protectorate are under consideration.

Welfare Institutions.

There are no welfare institutions in British Somaliland, but a camp is maintained at Berbera for the accommodation and feeding of destitute Somalis. At the end of the year, 117 persons were being maintained in the camp.

Recreation.

There are primitive golf courses at most stations in the Protectorate, and tennis is played at all stations. There are cricket pitches at Berbera and Burao which are used when sufficient enthusiasts are gathered together. The greatest activity in this direction occurs on the occasions when the Protectorate is visited by one of His Majesty's ships.

The Somali is a fine natural athlete and takes eagerly to cricket, football, and hockey. At hockey, as in cricket, the Somali is a great individualist and much training is needed to attain combination. Both games call for strict umpiring. The Police and Somaliland Camel Corps both field very good hockey teams, as also do the towns of Berbera, Burao, and Sheikh.

Polo is played by the Camel Corps, and riding is a popular pastime, with many Europeans in the country. Wart-hog abound in places, and opportunities for pig-sticking are plentiful, while the big and small game of the country provide good sport.

Digitized by Google

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

There is a weekly service from Aden, which is worked by local contract, the ships connecting at Aden with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's outward and homeward bound ships.

The following is a comparative table of the steam and motor vessels and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the last five years:—

	1932.		*1933.*		*1934.*		*1935.*		*1936.*	
	Nos.	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*
Entered...	694	51,923	687	58,306	772	69,530	684	75,060	505	57,287
Cleared ...	660	51,153	637	57,898	726	68,961	678	75,997	486	55,921

Roads.

There are no railways in the Protectorate, and all transport is by road.

The roads, of which some 2,000 miles are open for wheeled traffic, are classed as Main or Trunk Roads and District Roads. The former are maintained by the Public Works Department and the latter by the District Administration.

They are suitable for general traffic and for vehicles of medium weight up to two tons carrying capacity, but are subject to weather conditions, becoming at times impassable, particularly at river crossings, in the rainy seasons.

The principal main routes are:—

Berbera to Burao *via* Sheikh, 90 miles.

Berbera to Borama *via* Hargeisa, 184 miles.

Burao to Erigavo *via* Ainabo and Adad, 236 miles.

A lateral road of importance also connects Burao and Hargeisa *via* Oadweina—123½ miles.

The more important District Roads are:—

(1) Nogal system, 340 miles, connecting Ainabo, Bohotleh, Las Anod and Bihen.

(2) Ain Valley, 177 miles, connecting Ainabo, Hudin and Halin.

(3) Burao to Eik and the Southern boundary.

(4) Hargeisa to Gibileh and the Southern boundary.

(5) Borama to Zeilah, 140 miles.

(6) Erigavo to Baran and Las War War, 274 miles.

Motor Transport.

Motor traffic along the main commercial routes, from Berbera to Jijiga *via* Hargeisa, and Berbera to Erigavo *via* Burao, again showed an increase in 1936.

Vehicles of British and Empire manufacture were imported in greater numbers, particularly from Canada, since facilities for obtaining spare parts through agencies in Berbera and Aden

Digitized by Google

have recently improved. No repair workshops or service depots have yet been established in the Protectorate.

The numbers of motor vehicles in use, other than Government vehicles, were:—

Private cars	43
Commercial cars	159

The importations of vehicles in the Protectorate during the year were:—

Private	7
Commercial	85

The following statement shows the countries of origin of the licensed motor vehicles in the Protectorate:—

British Empire	100
United States of America	99
French	2
Italian	1

Government Motor Transport.—The following transport is maintained by the Public Works Department:—

Morris, 25 cwt. Commercial	5
Morris, " Oxford " Tourer (His Excellency the Governor's car)	1
Humber " Snipe " Saloon (His Excellency the Governor's car)	1
Ford V-8 Tourer	1

The total mileage run by Government motor transport in 1936, exclusive of that of vehicles of the mechanized company of the Somaliland Camel Corps and four vehicles of the water-boring Party, was 45,400 miles. Running costs amounted to 4·23 annas per ton-mile as compared with 4·7 annas per ton-mile by camel transport.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The headquarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at Berbera.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department in respect of the last five years was as follows:—

	1936.	*1935.*	*1934.*	*1933.*	*1932.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	2,358	4,881	1,139	1,223	1,367
Expenditure ...	7,084	7,471	6,949	7,067	8,136

The Indian Post Office Act, 1898, was applied to British Somaliland by an order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated 9th March, 1903, and the Protectorate Post Office was transferred from the Indian Administration and constituted under the above authority on the 1st June, 1903, the Protectorate becoming a member of the International Postal Union.

The operations against the Dervishes in 1903 necessitated the establishment of a number of Field Post Offices, the mails being

Digitized by Google

carried by runners and camel riders. This system was maintained till 1925 for the conveyance of mails between the administrative stations in the interior, and, in the absence of railways and motor cars, proved generally a cheap, reliable and comparatively speedy service.

In 1925, a weekly motor car mail service was inaugurated, connecting Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Erigavo, Borama and Hargeisa. Other places are still served by mail runners.

Direct mails, which are exchanged weekly with London, Aden, and Bombay, are carried by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamers, regular connexions with which are made by local contract steamers between Aden and Berbera. Letters to and from the United Kingdom are delivered within from 12 to 14 days.

The following are the denominations of postage stamps on sale in the Protectorate:—

Annas, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12.
Rupees, 1, 2, 3, 5.

The issue and payment of British postal orders were introduced in January, 1905, and during the same year arrangements were made with the British and Indian Post Offices for a direct exchange of money orders. A direct Telegraph Money Order Service between the Protectorate and the United Kingdom was introduced in 1916. In 1907, the cash on delivery and insurance of parcels, and the value payable and insurance of parcels, etc., services were introduced with Great Britain and India, including Aden, and in the following year the insured letter service to Great Britain was commenced. The insured box service with Great Britain and certain other countries was introduced in 1926. The direct exchange of money orders with the Kenya and Uganda Administration, which had been introduced in 1910, was suspended in 1921 on account of exchange difficulties. Money orders to and from the East African Dependencies are exchanged through the intermediary of the Aden Post Office.

The present telegraph administration is the result of expansion and improvement of the military telegraphs used in connexion with the operations of the Somaliland Field Force in 1903, with subsequently the addition of wireless telegraphy.

A telegraph line connects Berbera with Sheikh and Burao, which are also served by telephone.

Wireless stations (1½ kilowatt) are in operation at Berbera, Borama, Burao, Erigavo and Hargeisa. The Zeilah station was closed in December, 1934.

All stations are open to the public for inland and foreign telegrams. The charge on inland telegrams is two annas per word without a minimum. The charges on foreign telegrams

Digitized by Google

were revised in June, 1934. The principal full-rate charges are as follows:—

8 annas per word without a minimum to Aden.

Rs.1-15-0* per word without a minimum to the United Kingdom.

Rs.1-10-0* per word without a minimum to India.

The Daily Letter Telegram Service was introduced in 1933.

A service of telegrams conveying Christmas and New Year wishes (greeting telegrams) is admissible during the period from 14th December to 6th January, inclusive.

The air mail service from the Protectorate was withdrawn during August, 1936, the Italian Air Company, Societa Ala Littoria, having cancelled Berbera as a port of call, in order to accelerate their air service to Italian East Africa.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accepts deposits from private individuals, cashes cheques drawn on them, and arranges the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm at Aden.

The Government Savings Bank continues to gain ground. The rate of interest paid remains at 2½ per cent., and depositors from all classes of the community are taking advantage of the facilities offered. The number of depositors increased in the year from 205 to 241.

Currency.

The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee at one shilling and sixpence. Rupees are legal tender for the payment of any amount and Government of India subsidiary coinage is legal tender for the payment of sums not in excess of five rupees. India Government Currency Notes are in circulation.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force. The Indian and Somali traders also use certain of the weights and measures in force in British India.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

A general programme of small works was carried out during the year and necessary repairs to and upkeep of Government buildings were undertaken. Owing to the prolonged absence on sick leave of the Director of Public Works, it was not found possible to carry out the complete programme of major works.

* Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

Digitized by Google

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There is no Judicial or Legal Department in the Protectorate, but in 1935 a Legal Secretary was appointed whose duties are to advise the Governor on matters of law in all Court cases, to act as Registrar of the Protectorate Court, to advise the Governor on the legal aspects of all Government business, to draft legislation and to assist generally in the work of the Secretariat. The Criminal Courts consist of the Protectorate Court, District Courts of the first class, and District Courts of the second class. The Governor and Secretary to the Government are the judges of the Protectorate Court. During the absence of the Governor or the Secretary to the Government, certain Protectorate Court cases may be tried by a District Officer specially empowered under Ordinance No. 3 of 1933. District Courts of the first class are held by District Officers and such other officers as the Governor may so empower. District Courts of the second class are held by those officers so empowered by the Governor. The District Courts are empowered by law to try all cases in which natives are parties except for sedition, treason or offences punishable with death. Cases beyond the jurisdiction of the District Courts, or possessing features which make a trial by the Protectorate Court desirable, are committed by the District Court for trial by the Protectorate Court. There is no trial by jury, but the Protectorate Court when trying cases under its original jurisdiction sits with three assessors. At the conclusion of a case each assessor gives his opinion. In cases where appeals lie from judgments of District Courts, the appeal is to the Protectorate Court sitting as a Court of Appeal, which is the final Appellate Court in the Protectorate.

The law of the Protectorate is:—

(*a*) Coded law, i.e., Local Ordinances and a number of British and Indian Acts which have been applied to the Protectorate.

The more important of these Acts are the Indian Penal Code, the Indian Evidence Act, the Indian Contract Act, the Indian Stamp Act, the Indian Code of Civil Procedure, the Indian Limitation Act. The procedure in Criminal Courts is in accordance with the Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance (Chapter 4 of the Revised Edition of the Laws), which closely resembles the Indian Criminal Procedure Code.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan law.

A stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives were dealt with under tribal custom, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts.

Digitized by Google

In addition to Criminal and Civil cases under (*a*), tribal cases are investigated and judged by District Courts under a mixture of tribal custom, Mohammedan law and Indian law. This work forms the great bulk of the District Officers' work, since the Somali's inherent love of litigation and refusal to accept any decision except from the highest court of appeal lead to much work of a trivial nature which, if neglected, may result in inter-tribal fighting. The Kadis deal with cases falling entirely under Mohammedan law, and Courts of Akils or Elders have been set up to deal with the less important and contentious of tribal cases.

Crime.

The following summary shows the amount of crime in the Protectorate for 1936, as compared with the previous year:—

	1936.	1935.
Convictions for murder	5	4
Persons executed	—	3
Offences against the person	242	195
Offences against property	255	224
Other offences	824	626

Police.

The Somaliland Civil Police are constituted under the Somaliland Civil Police Ordinance. The force is under the control of the Governor, and has an establishment of four European officers, four Somali officers, and some 550 other ranks. Rank and file in stations other than Berbera are under the charge of District Officers.

Garrison duties are carried out by the force at Berbera, Erigavo, Zeilah, and Borama. The police are liable to serve as a military force when called upon by the Governor to discharge military duties.

Prisons.

The established prisons in the Protectorate are the Central Prison in Berbera and five District Prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Borama, and Erigavo, respectively.

The Central Prison accommodates all convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months, in addition to all prisoners convicted in the Berbera District.

The District Prisons accommodate prisoners convicted within Districts and sentenced to imprisonment for six months or less.

Since 1930 the Commandant of Police has been Director of Prisons with powers of inspection of all prisons in the Protectorate, and, further, with power to appoint a European officer, subject to the approval of the Governor, to be in responsible charge of the Berbera Prison for the purpose of carrying out the regulations made under the Prison Discipline Ordinance, 1918. The administration of District Prisons is in the hands of District Officers.

Digitized by Google

The Central Prison occupies an area of some 6,700 square yards, the whole being surrounded by a stone wall from 11 to 17 feet high. Accommodation is provided for male, female, and juvenile convicts. In addition to the usual wards and cells, the prison is equipped with a dispensary, two sick wards capable of accommodating four lying-in cases, a workshop, and the usual offices. The prison is lighted by electricity.

Committals to the Central Prison during 1936, as compared with the three preceding years, were as follows:—

Year.	*For want of bail or for debt.*	*For penal imprisonment.*
1936	11	152
1935	7	201
1934	6	216
1933	Nil.	250

The bulk of the labour provided by the prisoners is unskilled, and is used on work of public utility such as road-making, quarrying stones, watering trees in Government grounds, etc.

A certain amount of skilled labour is carried out in the Central Prison, where long-sentence prisoners are taught to manufacture and repair articles of use to other departments. The manufacture of cane furniture for the Public Works Department is the main industry.

The Central Prison is visited at least once in every two months by the Visiting Justices.

Section 2 of the Administration of Criminal Justice (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, provides that no young person under the age of 16 years shall be sentenced to imprisonment, if the court considers that suitable punishment can be imposed in some other way by placing on probation, or fine or corporal punishment, or committal to a place of detention, or otherwise. Local conditions do not permit of the institution of a regular probation system.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-two Ordinances were enacted during 1936.

The following is a list of the more important enactments:—

The Savings Bank Ordinance (No. 2 of 1936) replaces previous legislation and is based on a model draft provided by the Secretary of State.

The Building Restriction Ordinance (No. 7 of 1936) prohibits the erection of any building, other than a portable one, without permission.

The Fire Prevention Ordinance (No. 9 of 1936) provides penalties for the wilful or negligent burning of crops, grass, trees, etc.

Digitized by Google

The Widows' and Orphans' Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 10 of 1936) extends the range of the Tables to the Principal Ordinance in order to provide benefits in respect of husbands from the age of 50 years to the age of 54 years and introduces revised instructions for the use of the Tables.

The Illalo Ordinance (No. 11 of 1936) provides for the establishment of a force of tribal police under the administration and command of District Officers.

The Collective Punishment (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 12 of 1936) gives power to the Governor to order persons found guilty of offences against the Principal Ordinance to live in a specified district or area, and also to order the seizure of the movable property of persons reasonably suspected of having committed such an offence pending the holding of inquiry.

The Motor Traffic (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance (No. 18 of 1936) makes the law more applicable to modern conditions of motor traffic.

The Gum and Damask Plantations (Registration) Ordinance (No. 19 of 1936) provides for the registration of the right of an individual or of a section of a tribe to work a Gum or Damask Plantation and prohibits the transfer of such a right except in accordance with native custom.

The Preservation of Grazing Areas and Water Ordinance (No. 22 of 1936) gives power to prohibit temporarily grazing in any specified area in order to preserve grazing and power to prevent the contamination of wells. This Ordinance does not come into operation until such date as the Governor may appoint. A date has not yet been appointed.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The finances of the Protectorate improved considerably during the year, there being a marked increase in Revenue.

Consequent upon the occupation of Ethiopia by the Italian military authorities, a market for all classes of goods was created in the areas contiguous to the Protectorate and the import trade of the Protectorate increased appreciably.

No new forms of taxation were introduced during 1936 and preferential tariffs in favour of Empire goods continued in force.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources amounted to £164,536, an increase of £45,560 as compared with the previous year. This increase is attributable mainly to the situation in the Ethiopian

Digitized by Google

territories bordering the British Somaliland frontier where a demand arose for goods of which the market had been starved. The Transit Trade collapsed in May, and goods which had formerly passed through the Protectorate in transit at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* were subject to Protectorate rates of duty, resulting in a sharp increase in revenue from Customs import duties.

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue for the years 1932-6.

	Customs. £	*Licences and Taxes.* £	*Court Fees and Government Services.* £	*Other.* £	*Total.* £
1932 ...	63,740	15,055	14,131	9,968*	102,894
1933 ...	73,318	22,347	10,645	5,576*	111,886
1934 ...	71,279	20,111	10,737	4,042*	106,169
1935 ...	72,093	16,360	12,444	18,079*	118,976
1936 ...	121,995	18,341	9,002	15,198*	164,536

* Includes receipts from the Colonial Development Fund.

Public Debt.

The net sum due by the Protectorate to the Imperial Treasury on 31st December, 1936, was £236,000. This sum represents the total of loans-in-aid of civil expenditure for the period 1921 to 1934. Loans-in-aid are subject to repayment with interest as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No repayment has yet been made.

The Protectorate is also in receipt of an annual free grant-in-aid of military expenditure. The grant paid in 1936 was £30,000 and the total sum granted since 1st April, 1921, is £797,000. In addition a sum of £23,000 was received from the Imperial Treasury as a free grant for expenditure on special precautionary measures necessitated by the Italo-Ethiopian war.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £207,190 and exceeded that of 1935 by £19,612. Expenditure to the extent of £40,271 was required for special precautionary measures necessitated by the Italo-Ethiopian dispute and under the Military head £6,212 was required for the Nyasaland Contingent of the Somaliland Camel Corps as Extraordinary expenditure.

£8,462 was expended in the year upon Water Boring Operations financed by grants from the Colonial Development Fund.

Digitized by Google

The following table shows expenditure for the years 1932-6.

	Civil.	*Military.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£
1932	109,328*	46,912	156,240
1933	114,059*	39,761	153,820
1934	126,588*	41,068	167,656
1935	132,980*	54,598	187,578
1936	136,180*	71,010	207,190

* Includes expenditure from the Colonial Development Fund grants.

Financial Position at 31st December, 1936.

	£	£
Surplus on 1st January, 1936		20,404
Surplus between Civil Revenue and Expenditure ...	40,990	
Deficit between Military Revenue and Expenditure ...	43,373	2,383
Surplus		18,021
Expenditure upon Special Precautionary Measures:—		
Civil	13,337	
Military	26,935	
		40,272
Deficit		22,251
Grant-in-Aid:—		
Ordinary Military Expenditure	30,000	
Special Expenditure	23,000	
		53,000
Surplus at 31st December, 1936		30,749

Customs Duties.

Authority:—The Customs Ordinance (Chapter 44, Revised Edition of the Laws) and amending Ordinances 1930 to 1936. The Alcoholic Liquors Ordinance (Chapter 29, Revised Edition of the Laws), and amending Ordinances 1930 to 1933.

The Customs duties are classified under two heads: (*a*) Specific Duties; (*b*) *Ad Valorem* Duties.

The value at which *ad valorem* duty is assessed is (*a*) in accordance with the Tariff which is approved yearly on 1st April by His Excellency the Governor and which is open for inspection at each Custom House; (*b*) where no provision is made in the Tariff (i) in the case of imports, the wholesale cash price less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind and quality are sold or are capable of being sold, at the time and place of importation, without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof; and (ii) in the case of exports, the prevailing market price at the port of exportation as ascertained monthly by the Treasurer and Chief of Customs or as manifested on exporters' invoices.

Digitized by Google

TARIFF.

Imports.

Specific Duties:—

	Ordinary Rate. Rs. as. ps.	*Preferential Rate.* Rs. as. ps.
Alcoholic Liquors, per gallon	13 3 0	12 0 0
Rice, per 168 lb.	2 12 0	2 8 0
Sugar, per 28 lb.	1 0 0	0 12 0
Dates, per 168 lb.	1 12 0	—
Grey Sheeting, per 750 yds.	77 0 0	38 8 0
White Long Cloth, per 40 yds.	5 8 0	4 0 0
Matches per standard box	0 0 4	0 0 3
Matches per large box	0 0 8	0 0 6
Currants, Greek, per cwt.	1 0 0	—
Rubber soled footwear, with leather upper parts, per dozen pairs	22 0 0	6 0 0

Ad Valorem Duties:—

Rice (certain varieties), building materials, mats, matting and native pottery, naphthaline, fresh, dried and preserved fruit and vegetables, fresh and preserved provisions, and articles of European attire	20 per cent.	10 per cent.
Live stock and all other goods, with certain exceptions	25 per cent.	15 per cent.

Exports.

Live stock and local produce with certain exceptions	10 per cent.

The preferential rates of duty are extended to articles produced or manufactured in and consigned from the British Empire.

The following are the customs ports and frontier customs stations at which the above import and export duties are collected:—

Customs Ports.—Berbera, Zeilah, Las Khoreh, Heis, and Elayu.

Frontier Customs Stations.—Zeilah, Elayu, Hargeisa, Gibileh, and Borama (goods in transit only).

Subject to certain exceptions, a rebate of half of the Protectorate rates is allowed on all goods exported from Zeilah, and two-thirds on all goods imported at Zeilah for consumption within the administrative district of Zeilah.

Digitized by Google

Goods in Transit.

(*a*) *Transit duty.*—On all goods imported in transit to and from Ethiopia, 1 per cent. *ad valorem.*

(*b*) *Valuation.*—The value of goods imported in transit for purposes of transit duty is the wholesale cash price, less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind are sold or are capable of being sold at the time and place of importation without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribes. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognized (except in the case of a few small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any particular area recognized as giving any particular section of the tribe an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and to use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognized, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown Land.

The township areas are divided into two classes:—

(*a*) old-established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah; and

(*b*) recently established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*), the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

Rainfall.

The rainfall was up to the average and fairly well distributed in most areas, with the result that grazing was adequate through-

Digitized by Google

out the Protectorate, and Government was not called upon to take any abnormal measures for the relief of destitution.

Political Situation.

The result of the Italo-Ethiopian conflict has yet to be fully appreciated in this country. If the British Somali tribes retain their prescriptive right to graze and water in Ethiopia and Italian Somaliland and their customary trans-frontier trade facilities, it is not considered that the occupation of Ethiopia by Italy will cause any embarrassment to the inhabitants of the Protectorate, provided the Italian Government does not include them in any system of taxation imposed upon Italian Somali tribes—such as grazing, stock or poll taxes.

The past year may be regarded as having been, on the whole, a period of peace and prosperity throughout the Protectorate, but an unsettling atmosphere has been created by the re-opening over the border, and therefore beyond the control of the Protectorate authorities, of a number of long-standing blood-feuds by a few malcontents of our tribes.

Berbera District.—The attitude of indifference to events over the border has been maintained, and a natural eagerness to share in the profits resulting from the increased trans-frontier trade is the only sign that the inhabitants of Berbera are aware of any change in conditions in Ethiopia. The local merchants are of the opinion that the trans-frontier trade will gradually decline, and that conditions will revert to normal before the end of 1937, and that the general outlook does not justify any particular optimism. Nevertheless, it is difficult to believe that the establishment of a European administration across the border will not benefit Protectorate trade permanently to some extent.

Burao District.—The British-protected Somalis are very anxiously awaiting the outcome of the discussions, which they have been told will be undertaken in due course between the British and Italian Governments, regarding their grazing rights south of the frontier. The firm stand taken by the Italian authorities against the presence in occupied territory of armed tribespeople, and our own efforts to enforce the registration of rifles have caused a change for the better in the attitude of British Somalis towards disarmament.

The Italo-Ethiopian war has given a great impetus to local trade. The general shortage of foodstuff in the territories occupied by the Italians has encouraged a number of retail traders—Arabs, Indians and Somalis—to take supplies to those areas from British territory. This trade is, however, severely handicapped by the Italian currency rules, which prohibit the export of lira.

Digitized by Google

Hargeisa District.—The Italian occupation of Ethiopia has had rather an unsettling effect upon British tribes since they are afraid that they will not be allowed to retain their grazing and watering rights in that country. Until the respective Governments have come to an arrangement regarding these questions, and until they are settled on a basis which is fair to our tribes, the unrest will continue. Very many young men have left the country to find employment in Ethiopia, mostly as soldiers. Stock-owners are realizing that their sons are no longer content to stay at home and look after the stock, and it is very difficult to find servants to take their place.

Trade has been given a fillip in this district since the Italians conquered the adjacent territory. When Jijiga was first occupied, every small trader who could obtain goods and the wherewithal to transport them, rushed to Jijiga and sold them to the troops at enormous profit. Later, restrictions were put into force by the Italian Government and the trade has died down considerably, but there is still a great deal being exported and many small traders, who were poor before, are now comparatively rich. Many people, who never thought of trading previously, are taking caravans over the border and doing very well. A sign of prosperity is a brisk demand for building plots in Hargeisa town. It is thought that the boom will continue just as long as the Italians are unable to obtain sufficient supplies from their own country. The price of sheep skins was very high towards the end of the year, but it is expected that there will be a big drop in the price before very long.

Erigavo District.—Being far removed from the scene of the conflict, Erigavo District has suffered little or no repercussions from the Italo-Ethiopian war.

Trade has shown an upward trend in 1936, and (possibly owing to the large quantity of gum exported) money is far more plentiful than in 1935. The prices of stock and skins have risen sharply and, as an indication of the increased trade in the district, traders' cars have visited Erigavo regularly and extra building plots have been taken up in the township.

Zeilah District.—The collapse of the Ethiopian forces and the occupation of Ethiopia by Italy has overshadowed everything in the district. Internally the year has been very peaceful but events across the border have adversely affected a big proportion of the Gadabursi and Esa tribes. The war did not touch the Gadabursi or Esa grazing areas across the frontier and, generally speaking, conditions were normal until the arrival of the Italian administrative officers. Since then, and until the questions of trans-frontier grazing and watering rights

Digitized by Google

have been settled between the local Governments, unsettled conditions are inevitable.

Trade generally has shown a marked improvement over that of the previous year. This is attributable, in part, to the improvement which has taken place in trade conditions outside the Protectorate, and which is reflected in the increase of British and American prosperity, but mainly to the situation in Ethiopia.

Appendix

List of Publications relating to British Somaliland.

	£ s. d.	*To be purchased from*
Laws of the Somaliland Protectorate—Revised Edition	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies
Notices, Proclamations Regulations and Rules in force on the 30th June 1930	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Supplement to the Laws of the Somaliland Protectorate, 1930–32	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Ditto 1933–35	1 0 0	Ditto ditto
Report on the Somaliland Agricultural and Geological Department for 1927 and 1928 ...	0 5 0	Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Somaliland Annual Geological Report, 1929 ...	0 2 0	Crown Agents for the Colonies.
The Geology of British Somaliland, by W. A. Macfadyen, M.C., M.A., Ph.D.(Cantab.), F.G.S., F.R.G.S., M.Inst.P.T. (Part I of the Geology and Palæontology of British Somaliland) ...	0 12 6	Crown Agents for the Colonies or through any Bookseller.

British Somaliland (Drake-Brockman), London, 1917.

Somaliland (Hamilton), London, 1911.

The Mad Mullah of Somaliland (Jardine), London, 1923.

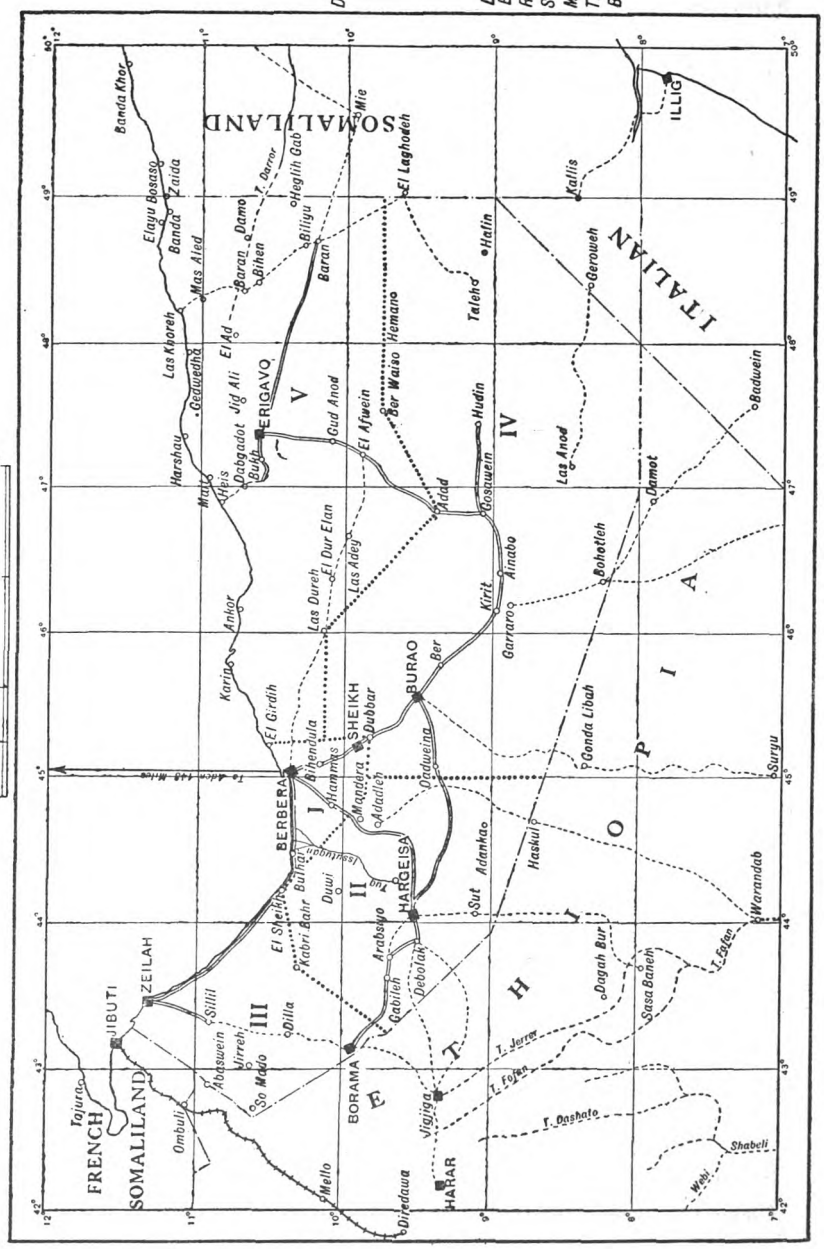
Sun, Sand and Somals (Rayne), London, 1921.

Seventeen Trips in Somaliland (Swayne), London.

Under the Flag and Somali Coast Stories (Walsh), London.

Digitized by Google

BRITISH SOMALILAND.



(44717—48) Wt. 2174—3888 750 10/37 P. St. G. 377/7

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935.

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. 0d. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chiches

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SEIRRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No 58-1815

Digitized by Google

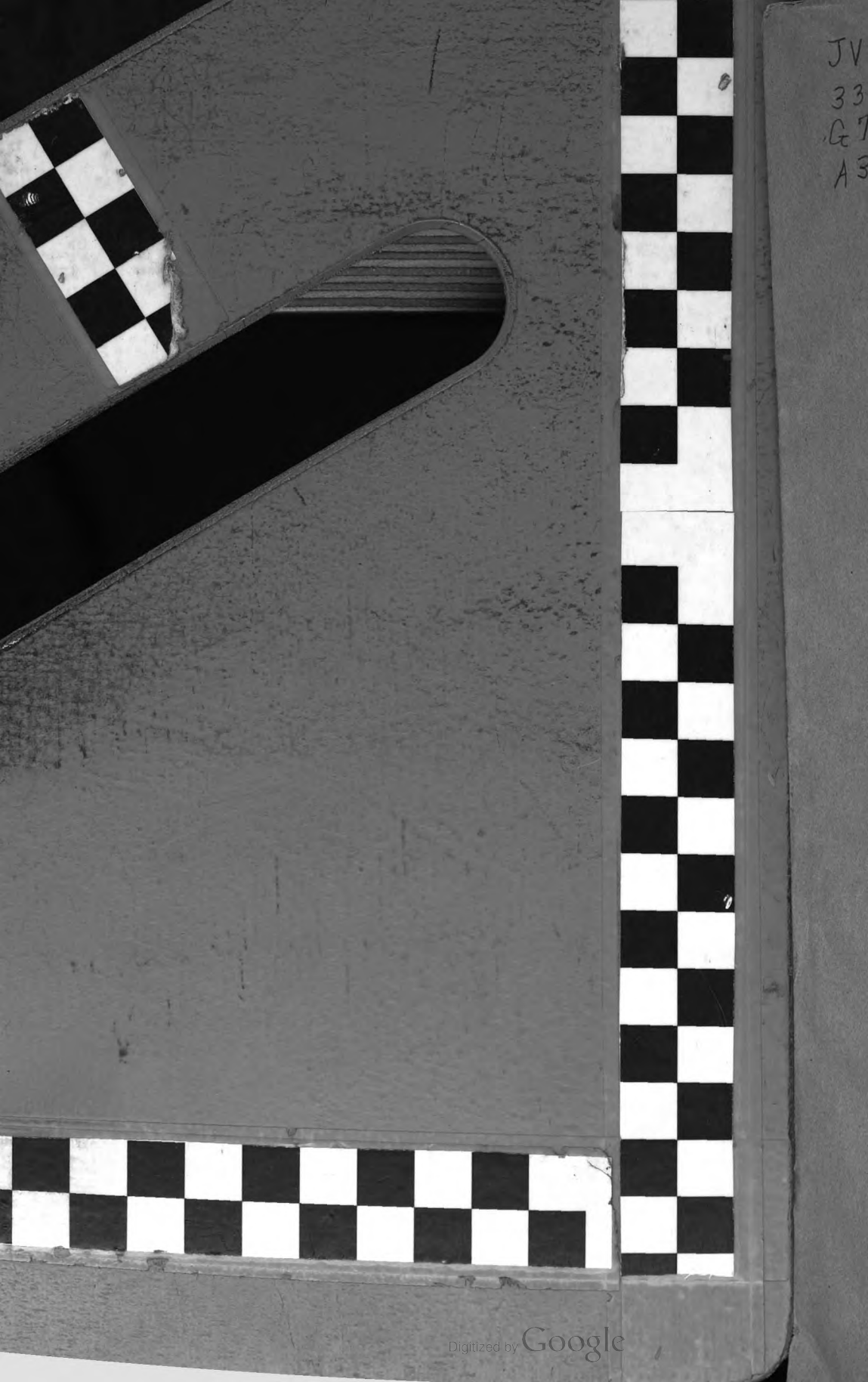
Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google


JV
33
.G7
A3
Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1814

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

STATE OF KELANTAN

(Unfederated Malay States)

REPORT FOR 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1711 (Price 2s. 6d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1754 (Price 3s. 6d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN KELANTAN)

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 3s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
H 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1814

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

STATE OF KELANTAN

(Unfederated Malay States)

REPORT FOR 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1711 (Price 2s. 6d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1754 (Price 3s. 6d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN KELANTAN)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1937
Price 3s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Sotheran
1-20-38
15-205

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

CHAPTERS	PAGE.
I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY	1
II.—GOVERNMENT	4
III.—POPULATION	4
IV.—HEALTH	7
V.—HOUSING	17
VI.—PRODUCTION	19
VII.—COMMERCE	33
VIII.—WAGES AND THE COST OF LIVING	37
IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS ..	38
X.—COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT	44
XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	48
XII.—PUBLIC WORKS	48
XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE	54
XIV.—LEGISLATION	59
XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION	60
XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS:—	
Lands, Mines and Forests	
Surveys	
Electrical	
GENERAL	86

APPENDICES.

A. List of publications relating to Kelantan.

B. Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the State of Kelantan as on 31st December, 1936.

C. Table of Annual Revenue and Expenditure since Kelantan came under British Protection.

D. Comparative Statement of the Principal Articles of Local Production and Exports for five years.

E. Comparative Statement ot the Principal Articles of Imports for five years.

F. Map of the State of Kelantan.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

STATE OF KELANTAN.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF KELANTAN FOR THE YEAR 1936.

The value of the dollar is 2: 4d. A picul is equal to 133⅓ lbs.

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

The State of Kelantan (of which a map is annexed) lies on the Eastern coast of the Malay Peninsula between latitudes 4°32′ and 6°15′ North and longitudes 101°19′ and 102°37′ East, and is bounded on the North by the China Sea, on the East by the China Sea and the State of Trengganu, on the South by the State of Pahang, and on the West by the State of Perak and the Patani district of Southern Siam. It has a greatest length from North to South of 118 miles and a greatest breadth from East to West of 88 miles, the total area being 5,750 square miles. The State Capital is Kota Bharu, situated about 6 miles from the mouth of the Kelantan River, containing 14,843 inhabitants according to the 1931 Census. Kuala Krai is the headquarters of the Southern, and Pasir Puteh of the Eastern, Administrative District. The part of Kelantan plain lying between the Kelantan River and the Siamese frontier has been formed into a new administrative district, Pasir Mas.

Behind a low sandy coast line of some 60 miles in length lies a fertile plain of about 1,000 square miles in area, densely populated, and closely cultivated with rice, coconut and fruit trees. South of this plain the country is hilly and broken, the highest hills being those of the main range of the Peninsula, which forms the boundary with Perak, and of the Tahan range on the Pahang border, many peaks exceeding 6,000 feet in height. This part of the State is thinly populated, but contains the bulk of the foreign-owned rubber estates, and also the whole of the aboriginal population.

Digitized by Google

Climate.

The characteristic features of the climate are uniform temperature, high humidity, and copious rainfall, arising mainly from the situation of the State in the equatorial zone of constant precipitation. Actually the State is just far enough north and distant from the Straits of Malacca, for its climate to be appreciably affected by the Central Asian mountain mass. Most of the rest of the peninsula shares with Kelantan the heavy rainfall in November, December and January, during the North East Monsoon, but only Trengganu and Kedah have anything approaching the Kelantan continuous dry period from February to September, most other regions having only a short dry spell in February with a second wet season reaching its maximum in April. This climatic rhythm is however far less marked than it is in countries bordering on the Indian Ocean. In 1936 the mean monthly maxima varied only between 84.1° (January) and 89.9° (July) and the mean minima between 71.3° (February) and 74.9° (May). Monthly rainfall near the coast varied between 5.15 inches (September), 5.19 inches (March) and 30.21 inches (December). March is the period of the "wet" padi harvest, the harvest of padi grown on dry ground occurring earlier. The average rainfall on the coast is some 130 inches (157 in 1936), and on the plains further inland 115 inches. In the mountains yet further inland the rainfall is much higher.

History.

Little is known of the early history of Kelantan. Folk-lore derives the name from *glam hutan (Melaleuca Leucadendron)* a swamp tree that once covered much of the coast. As fantastic is Gerini's derivation from *Koli*, a north Indian loan-word from a town near the Buddha's birth-place, plus *tanah* 'land'. Unsubstantiated, too, is his identification of Kota with Kolo of the Chinese annals, which was more probably Kra. Actually 'Kelantan' is one of those *krama* or alternative forms, like the sakai *asu* and *anjing* 'dog', the Malay *kuala* and *kuantan* 'estuary', the Javanese *segara* and *seganten* 'ocean' or *kali* and *kanten* 'river', forms that probably antedate the

Digitized by Google

splitting of Javanese, Malay and Sundanese into separate languages.

A Chinese Buddhist traveller, Chau Ju Kua mentions Kelantan as subject at the end of the 12th century A. D. to the great Buddhist empire of Sri Vijaya or Palembang, whose kings built Borobudoh and Chandi Kalasan in Java and erected at Jaiya on the Bay of Bandon in southern Siam Buddhist buildings of the same type as Chandi Kalasan.

Composed in 1365, a Javanese poem *Nagarakretagama*, mentions Kelantan as subject then to the Javanese empire of Majapahit. In 1411 it was ruled by a Maharaja K'umar who sent tribute to China, so that in 1412 he received a present of silks and an imperial letter praising his conduct.

Mahmud, last Sultan of Malacca, who ruled from 1488 to 1511 A. D. conquered Kelantan, which according to the *Malay Annals* was then larger than Patani and had a king Sultan Mansur Shah of the race of Raja 'Chulan', possibly reminiscent of Chula conquest in Malaya in the twelfth century A. D. One of this ruler's captive daughters, Onang Kening, married Sultan Mahmud and became the mother of the first Sultan of Perak. A Pahang Raja, Ali Jalla 'Abdul'l-Jalil Riayat Shah, who was Sultan of Johore from 1580 to 1597, had a son Raja Hussin who became ruler of Kelantan.

The Capital of Kelantan appears on Portuguese and Dutch maps of the 16th century and then disappears until the last half of the 18th century. In 1603 A.D. Siam is said to have conquered Patani, after which Kelantan fell under the sway of Patani and is not mentioned in Dutch records of the seventeenth century. One account makes the present dynasty trace its descent to an 18th century Bugis prince who married a Johore lady and came to Kelantan from Patani. In the middle of that century Kelantan was overrun by Trengganu. At the beginning of 19th century Siamese imperialism led to a tightening of control from Bangkok. In 1903 Siam stationed an Adviser at Kota Bharu. In 1909 the Siamese Government transferred to Great Britain "all rights to suzerainty,

Digitized by Google

protection, administration and control whatsoever which they possessed over the States of Kelantan, Trengganu, Kedah, Perlis and adjacent islands". A Treaty was made in 1910 between Great Britain and the Raja of Kelantan whereof Article 11 provides that the Sultan of Kelantan shall receive a British Adviser, "whose advice he undertakes to follow in all matters of administration other than those touching the Muhammedan religion and local Malay custom".

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The present ruler is His Highness the Sultan, Sir Ismail ibni al-Marhum Sultan Mohamed, IV., K.C.M.G., who succeeded his father in 1920. The supreme authority in the State is vested in the Sultan who exercises it subject to the advice and consent of the British Adviser who is responsible to the High Commissioner for the Malay States residing in Singapore.

The Agreement between Great Britain and Kelantan dated 22nd October, 1910, gives recognition to the fact that the State is under the protection of Great Britain and defines the general principles on which the Government of the State shall be conducted.

In carrying on the general administration of the country the Sultan is assisted by a State Council consisting of 15 members including the British Adviser, the Assistant Adviser and the Legal Adviser, the Sultan himself being President. The Council met once a week for the transaction of general business till the end of 1936, when it was decided to reduce the meetings to twice a month. All laws are passed by the State Council.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

The population of Kelantan at the 1931 Census was 369,411: namely, 188,057 males and 181,354 females. The table on page 5 shows the distribution of the population by race and sex.

Digitized by Google

POPULATION OF KELANTAN ACCORDING TO CENSUS 1931.

	Malays		Chinese		Europeans		Eurasians		Others		Total all Races		Births	Deaths
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female		
Kota Bharu	109,110	112,090	5,720	3,777	32	18	10	7	4,387	3,243	119,259	119,135	8,504	4,274
Pasir Puteh	36,966	38,282	779	624	2	---	---	---	581	441	38,328	39,347	2,856	1,450
Ulu Kelantan	20,165	19,588	5,928	1,563	50	22	11	4	4,316	1,695	30,470	22,872	1,471	900
Total Kelantan	166,241	169,960	12,427	5,964	84	40	21	11	9,284	5,379	188,057	181,354	12,831	6,624

Under Malays are included all persons of the Malayan Race classed in the 1931 Census as Malaysians.
The total number of births registered in 1936 was 11,652, the ratio of male to female births being 1,063 to 1,000.
The highest birth rate according to race was 30.14 per mille among Malays, the lowest 12.62 per mille among Indians.
The general birth rate was 29.44% as against 26.58% in 1935.
The infantile mortality was 130.07% as against 132.43% in 1935.
The general death rate was 21.36% as compared with 18.21% in 1935.
The Chief Medical Officer stresses that as registration of births and deaths, introduced in 1930, is still very unreliable, vital statistics give no true index of the health of the State.
The total population is now estimated at 395,817 as compared with 389,187 in 1935, an increase of 6,630.

Digitized by Google

Aborigines. It is improbable that more than a small proportion of the aborigines were enumerated in the 1931 Census. There are two very distinct races of aborigines in the mountainous part of Kelantan, Negritos and Indonesians (or Nesiots). The first volume of a very interesting report on the latter, the fruit of four years' work by the Government Ethnographer, Perak, was published at the end of the year. They are of a racially high type, both physically and culturally. They differ from other Malayan aborigines in having weapons of offence and appear throughout their history to have remained quite independent of the Malays. One of their more marked characteristics is the large part played by co-operative endeavour in their daily life. In their planting of annual crops in forest clearings largely by a rotation of crops and a limited period of fallow they stand at a higher level than any other Malayan race. Their destruction of forest is not wholesale: each family group restricts its clearings to a definite area which is surrounded on all sides by virgin jungle. It is estimated that there are more than 4,000 of these "Temiar" in Kelantan.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

The State provides at Kota Bharu a General Hospital (222 beds). It contains first class and second class wards, and a special ward for sick prisoners, a small European Hospital, a non-Malay Ward, a Hospital for mental diseases, two Malay Wards, one Female Ward, and an Isolation Hospital. At Kuala Krai there is a district Hospital (56 beds); at Tumpat an out-door Dispensary with an Emergency Ward and a Quarantine Camp; at Pasir Puteh an out-door Dispensary; and at Pasir Mas, in addition to the Dispensary, an Emergency Ward of 8 beds.

New Buildings.

New Hospital, Kota Bharu. One new ward of 30 beds was completed in December, 1936. Two wards of similar size were under construction and will be completed early in 1937. In addition new quarters for the Assistant Medical and Health officer were constructed and ready for occupation by the end of November. Plans for the construction of

(*a*) New Administration block.
(*b*) Operating theatre.
(*c*) Laboratory and X-ray building.

were approved. Work starts on these in January, 1937.

Staff. The Medical Staff at present consists of a Chief Medical Officer with headquarters at Kota Bharu, an Assistant Medical and Health Officer also at Kota Bharu, a part-time Medical Officer at Kuala Krai, a Lady Medical Officer in charge of infant welfare work in Kota Bharu, a European Matron, two staff Nurses, and a number of Asiatic Assistants, including Indians, Chinese and Malays. The new appointments made during the year include the Assistant Medical and Health Officer and the Lady Medical Officer mentioned above, four hospital dressers and a Health Inspector.

Finance. The total expenditure of the Medical

Digitized by Google

Department was $181,207.97 as compared with $167,546.17 in 1935. The total revenue collected during the year was $11,223.45 as compared with $10,155.38 in 1935. The expenditure on Medical and Health Services accounts for 7.31% of the revenue of the State.

Legislation. A new Labour Code was passed and became law during the year. In addition several minor amendments were made to existing ordinances. Of these, Notification No. 63 of 1936 gave powers to a District Officer to prohibit absolutely cattle grazing in recreation grounds inside notified areas.

New Developments.

Out-door Dispensaries. The most interesting and hopeful feature of the Health and Medical Services in this State is the continued and successful development of the system of Out-door Dispensaries and Travelling Dispensaries.

The very limited revenues of the State do not admit of any great extension to the permanent hospitals. In any case, a system of large permanent hospitals is more suited to States in which the population is concentrated in towns. In Kelantan, a population of nearly 400,000 is scattered over a vast area in kampongs which are often remote from any motor road or railway. The result is that serious cases may not be able to get to hospital, and that patients who are not seriously ill are reluctant to face a long and difficult journey.

The natural reluctance of a sick man to leave his home and his relations, and to face the unknown dangers of living in hospital, must also be considered.

The only remedy is to take the hospital to the patient, and this is what is done by a system which includes

(*a*) Small fixed Dispensaries at convenient centres;
(*b*) Motor Travelling Dispensaries which can be used in emergencies as ambulances;
(*c*) Pack Dispensaries with carriers;
(*d*) Out-board Motor-boat Dispensaries.

Digitized by Google

The fixed and motor dispensaries were sufficiently described in the last annual report.

Pack Dispensary units were increased during 1936, each district being subdivided into sections which take five days to cover, so that each unit has two days each week at headquarters, where a fresh supply of drugs is obtained. A pack unit consists of one dresser and three coolies. They travel on foot using bridle paths and take a month to cover the area allotted to them.

Out-board Motor-boat Dispensary. There is one such dispensary functioning in Ulu Kelantan, a district almost devoid of roads, and possessed of only a few short bridle paths. In 1935 it had operated only on the Pergau River. In 1936 its operations were extended to the upper and lower Galas Rivers and to the Sungei Lebir, a river noted for its many and difficult rapids. Provision has been made in the 1937 estimates for purchasing and equipping a second out-board motor-boat for serving the riverine population on the main Kelantan River.

There was a large total increase in attendances at travelling dispensaries, from 198,008 in 1935 to 319,710 in 1936, an increase of 61.4%

Hygiene and Sanitation.

MALARIA.

There was a marked increase in the number of cases admitted to hospitals suffering from malaria during the year; 1,390 with 61 deaths compared with 641 cases and 64 deaths in 1935. This is not due to an increased incidence but is largely accounted for by the opening of a new iron mine by a Japanese Mining Company, and their introduction of unacclimatised Chinese labour chiefly from North China. The area opened up is in foot hills in Ulu Kelantan, which is an ideal country for the formation of breeding places for *anopheles maculatus.*

Total admissions to Government Hospitals of cases diagnosed as malaria were:—

Digitized by Google

Year	Admissions	Deaths
1930	1,453	61
1931	1,017	34
1932	821	27
1933	955	34
1934	739	37
1935	641	64
1936	1,390	61

The proportion of cases diagnosed as malaria admitted to Government Hospitals to total admissions from all causes for seven years is as follows:—

Year	Govt. Hospitals	Estate Hospitals.
1930	25.3%	46.2%
1931	17.44%	31.37%
1932	15.65%	21.3%
1933	17.24%	18.29%
1934	15.18%	30.18%
1935	12.41%	38.71%
1936	25.91%	30.26%

Plague. No case of plague occurred.

Cholera. No case of cholera occurred.

In view of the proximity of Siam, cholera must always be considered to be a menace. Special precautions are taken; all trains from Siam are met at Sungei Golok and boats at Tumpat. Passengers are examined and undertakings given. Police, Penggawas and Penghulus are warned to be on the look out and to report suspected cases. During the dry months of April, May, June and July the usual practice of pinking wells at regular intervals was carried out. One thousand two hundred and six anti-cholera injections were given to pilgrims to Mecca.

Small-pox. No case of small-pox occurred. Vaccinations were carried out as in previous years. This is done at Government Hospitals, out-door dispensaries and by travelling dressers and vaccinators who tour the State district by district. This year 12,451 vaccinations were done compared with 12,746 in 1935.

Digitized by Google

Enteric Fever. A total of 17 cases with 1 death occurred. Of these 4 were prisoners, 5 from Kuala Krai and 12 from Kota Bharu. It was found impossible to trace the source of infection in any of these cases. The whole of the jail staff and prisoners were given T.A.B. vaccine and new arrivals in the jail are treated in Similar manner.

Dysentery and Diarrhoea. There were in all 144 cases admitted to hospitals compared with 115 in 1935, representing 2.69% of total admissions compared with 2.25% in 1935. Of these 144 cases, 74 showed the presence of E. Histolytica on stool examination. The Chief Medical Officer expresses his surprise that bacillary dysentery should not be more prevalent. I would suggest that this may be partly due to the concrete-lined wells on which I comment later under "Water Supply". There were only five outbreaks of bacillary dysentery reported from kampongs during the year, none of which was serious.

Leprosy. Fourteen cases were diagnosed during the year, of whom 6 were Malays, the others being Chinese and Indians. This disease has shown a gradual increase during the past few years and is in Kelantan not uncommon amongst Malays. The numbers recorded are no true indication of the incidence, as it is the custom for relatives to conceal victims of this disease, and in a country like Kelantan, where kampongs are scattered, this is easy. It has been found that on search being made for reported suspects in kampongs that it is common practice for them to slip over the border into Siam.

Tuberculosis. One hundred and ninety two cases were treated in Government Hospitals this year with 45 deaths compared with 125 and 20 deaths in 1935. This disease is much more prevalent than these figures indicate. Cases are rarely seen except in the advanced stages. Bad housing, over-crowding, chronic malaria and ankylostomiasis are all predisposing causes. The North-East monsoon with continued rain, high humidity and floods, results in a scarcity of fresh vegetables and fresh fish and reduces resistence. Housing conditions in notified areas are being gradually improved and as fast as new

Digitized by Google

buildings are completed houses of the old slum type are demolished. Beds for tubercular patients are available in all hospitals and in Kota Bharu the male patients are housed in special wards with accommodation for 20 beds.

A Government Notification came into force at the end of the year authorising the yearly examination of all Government servants for pulmonary tuberculosis, thus bringing Kelantan into line with the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States. This was long overdue and supplied a much needed want as the numbers of Government servants boarded out from pulmonary tuberculosis each year has steadily increased. Attempts were made to introduce this order several years ago, but were sidetracked. Now fortunately the Malays have come to realise that medical examination and early diagnosis does not mean the loss of employment.

General Measures of Sanitation.

ANTI-MALARIAL MEASURES.

The health staff was increased by the appointment of a fully qualified Sanitary Inspector. They are chiefly engaged in anti-malarial measures. A sum of $6,700/- was provided for this work during the year. Oiling is carried out and Anti-malarial drains are maintained in seven notified areas. A dequate and effective drainage is difficult to obtain in the coast district as it is very low lyling and in Kota Bharu numerous old river channels constitute a serious anti-malarial problem.

In Ulu Kelantan the country is hilly and breeding of A. maculatus is widely distributed making the control of malaria more difficulty. The difficult in the headquarters town of Kuala Krai has until this yeas been the formation of pools in the Krai river during the dry season. Owing to heavy jungle on its banks these have been inaccessible to oiling gangs. Anopheles barbirstoris was found breeding in large numbers and caused a small outbreak of malaria during the month of May. Purely as an anti-malarial measure the Irrigation and Drainage Department have cleared this stream of snags, canalised its

Digitized by Google

channel and cleared its edges over a distance of two miles from its outfall into the Kelantan river. Small rubber holdings outside the Sanitary Board where *Anopheles maculatus* were found to be breeding have been brought under control.

Regular mosquito surveys were made in houses outside oiling areas with a view to controlling the breeding of *Culex* and *Stegomyia.* In rural areas travelling dispensaries distribute *free quinine,* and in two selected Police Stations prophylaxis by drugs is practiced. Atebrin and quinine is given to the staff regularly. The numbers are small, the personnel is disciplined and the results have been satisfactory. Particularly has this been so at Bukit Yong Police Station where the absence from duty, as a result of malaria, has dropped from 90% to nil. The cost where small numbers are involved is not high.

Sewage Disposal.

In kampongs and rural villages sanitation is still very primitive. Where latrines exist they are generally of the shallow pit type and more often than not situated immediately adjacent to the source of water supply (generally a shallow unprotected well). The majority of the people, however, prefer to use the nearest jungle edge, or patch of long grass for this purpose. The river population is better situated and uses the river. On the coast the foreshore is the place of choice. In notified areas steady progress, if slow, towards obtaining satisfactory conservancy is being made.

Water Supply.

In rural districts water supply is obtained chiefly from rivers or small streams or shallow unprotected wells. But, in the fortnight which has elapsed between my entry into the state and my writing of this report, in various parts of the Kelantan plain, I have seen extensive signs of villagers putting in concrete linings to wells, usually extending about two feet above ground level, with an ornamental top. I have seen no comment on this

Digitized by Google

phenomenon though I have met nothing of this sort in my previous experience of the East. I have seen men making the concrete pipes in their kampong. From enquiries I made it seems likely that this skill has spread from men employed by the Public Works Department, and has been one of the unexpected advantages resulting from this department using native labour instead of, as in most other administrations in Malaya, immigrant labour. *

In the bigger villages and towns, shallow wells, the majority of which fortunately have concrete lining and cement apron constitue the chief source of water supply. It is only in Kota Bharu, the State capital, that a laid on water supply is to be found and this has only been available since December 1935. The installation is described in Chapter XII. This water is entirely untreated, yet repeated analysis both chemical and bacteriological has given most satisfactory results.

One of the conditions of the renewal of licences to licensed premises in Kota Bharu was that they must take Municipal water supply. No new house or shop house is permitted to have a well if it is sited within a reasonable distance from a water main.

Schemes with a view to providing Pasir Mas and Kuala Krai with a laid on water supply were under consideration during the year. The only feasible source was

---

Note.

* I must make it clear that the majority of the existing concrete wells leave considerable room for improvement. It is only a small proportion of those which I have seen which either have the constituent lengths of piping cemented together so as to make the upper part of the well waterproof, or possess a concrete apron so as to keep contaminated surface water well away from the well. Discussing this matter with the Sultan I have been interested to learn (*a*) that the brick-lined wells (without any rendering) which one occasionally sees in kampongs have existed in Kelantan for at least 50 years, and (*b*) that the spread of the concrete wells was directly due to propaganda by Mr. A. R. Crawford, who was Director of Works and Surveys for the long period July 1910 till July 1922.

Digitized by Google

found to be the Kelantan river and as this will entail a very heavy capital cost in providing pumds, tanks and treatment plant, it was decided to keep the question open until such time as the State finances permit of the undertaking.

Estate Visiting.

All estates employing a sufficient number of Indian labourers to come under the labour enactment were visited monthly by the Visiting Medical Practitioner, and bi-annually by the Chief Medical Officer. The Visiting Medical Practitioner spends one full day on each estate and carries out a detailed inspection of anti-malarial measures and examines each labourer and dependent. The standard of anti-malarial work is high and the majority of the managers co-operate loyally in this work. Housing is generally satisfactory. A new type of semi-detached cooly line has been built on a considerable number of estates and is a decided improvement on the older type of barrack lines. On the majority of estates bored-hole latrines are used and are most satisfactory.

The death rate amongst Indians was 27.45 per mille compared with 35.82 in 1935, 37.06 in 1934 and 31.28 in 1933. Births for this nationality numbered 66 with 11 deaths under one year, compared with 40 and 22 deaths in 1935, and 44 births with 21 deaths in 1934.

The proportion of cases diagnosed as malaria to total admissions was 30.26 compared with 35.71 in 1935 and 30.31 in 1934. Health on estates showed considerable improvement during the year under review. The reduction in the infantile mortality rate is most gratifying and is due largely to the fact that managers are sending pregnant women to the Female Hospital in Kota Bharu for pre-natal treatment and for confinment.

School Hygiene.

There are 60 Malay Vernacular Schools in the State. Many of these are situated in outlying districts too

Digitized by Google

inaccessible for routine inspection. During the year 47 schools with 4,879 children were inspected and details recorded on special cards kept for the purpose. In the course of examining these children under-nutrition was found to be practically non-existent. Intestinal worm infection is, however, universal, and, coupled with malaria, results in the anaemia and under-development which are so often attributed to under-nourishment by laymen. The teachers are supplied with quinine capsules, ointments and antiseptics for treatment of common ailments among the boys. After examination a list of pupils with their required treatment is given to the teacher. He presents this to the travelling dresser who visits the school once per week. Over 80% of the schools are covered by the travelling dispensaries. Acute cases are advised, and every help given to them, to come to hospital where treatment is given free to students.

Labour Conditions.

Labour in Kelantan is composed of Malays, Tamils and Chinese. All government departments and several estates and industrial concerns employ local Malays exclusively. They now form about 59% of the total daily paid labour in the State. Only on one estate is the Malay labour force housed entirely, in the remainder their kampongs adjoin the estates and they come and go daily. To a great extent they have outgrown the tendency to work two or three days, and thereafter retire for a week, and estate managers have not now the same amount of trouble in keeping a stable labour force. Accepted health standards will be somewhat difficult to attain, as little if any control is possible in their kampongs. With the new Labour Code it is now possible to bring pressure to bear on owners and managers employing Malay labour to improve housing and sanitary conditions up to the standard of those estates which have been controlled under the old Indian Labour Enactment for many years. On estates employing Indians, health showed a marked improvement.

The total number of Chinese employed on estates in 1936 was 980 and their standard of health compared favourably with that of the Indians. Housing conditions, however, are not all that they should be and efforts are now being make to bring them up to accepted standards.

Digitized by Google

On the Japanese Iron Mine at Temangan where 545 Chinese are employed health conditions were deplorable during the year under review. This was due partly to the fact that this land was being newly opened up from jungle, but in the main to the delay in getting active anti-malarial measures started, for malaria is highly prevalent in this area. Great pressure has been brought to bear on the management and it is hoped that this will have the desired effect.

Government labourers are all local Malays who live in their own kampongs. The health amongst them has been good. In common with the rest of the Malay community free treatment is provided by Government Hospitals, Dispensaries and Travelling Dispensaries.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

The population of Kelantan outside the towns being almost exclusively Malay peasantry, the houses are of the simplest Malay type, constructed of palm thatch, bark or bamboo, and raised a few feet off the ground on piles. These houses are better ventilated, drier, and generally more healthy than the type of house built level with the ground used by the poorer classes of Chinese; in fact, if the ground under the house were kept clean and well drained, the type would be an excellent one, but too often dirt and rubbish is allowed to accumulate and, in some cases goats and chickens are reared under the house. The wealthier house-owner may construct his dwelling of sawn planks, and thin tiles often imported from Siam. The housing of Indian, Malay and Chinese estate labourers is conditioned by the Indian Labour and non-Indian Labour Enactments, under the supervision of the Chief Medical Officer. The types of building compare well with those found elsewhere in the Peninsula. Houses in the towns are, for the most part, either two storeyed wooden or brick shop-houses with living accommodation on the upper storey, constructed and occupied by Chinese and Indian merchants, or of the Malay dwelling-house type. This latter may be as elementary as the country peasant's dwelling, or a substantial two-storeyed wooden building standing in its own grounds.

Digitized by Google

The Municipal Department now operates a few simple rules to enforce the improvement of insanitary buildings, and a Town Advisory Board including the Chief Medical Officer, the District Officer, the Government Engineer, the Government Surveyor and four unofficials is engaged in devising a progressive layout of the capital, Kota Bharu. Very considerable progress was made in this sphere during the year, and several layouts were designed, involving the demolition of the more unsightly and insanitary buildings facing main roads. Several new roads have been opened up and one-way narrow roads widened so as to provide two-way traffic. No house may be built in a Municipal area, and no constructive alterations to existing buildings may be carried out till the plan has been approved by the Municipal Department. There are still too many derelict kampong type Malay houses in the town board area, but these are being gradually eliminated, or brought up to a reasonable standard. The commercial area of tbe town around the new market, which was formerly included in a Malay Reservation and was excised from that reservation in 1935 has been subject to a building boom, 18 brick shophouses having been practically completed by the end of the year, and plans for 8 more houses of this type having been approved. This is a record and taxed the capacity of local brick makers severely, with the result that the quality of the bricks used, never good, steadily declined. The best bricks were those made by the boys at a vernacular school, a few miles down river, an enterprise organised three years ago by a remarkably enterprising group teacher.

Government servants are mainly recruited from the Malay inhabitants of the State, and in the towns, in most cases, possess their own houses. A limited number of Government Quarters are provided in the outstations, and now that the revenue position has improved, these quarters are being repaired and extended. Quarters are provided rent free for European Officers. There are no Building Societies.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

Mining. The quantities and values of minerals exported during the last three years have been as follows:--

	Year.	Tons.	Value.
Manganese ore	1934	8,968.00	$105,338
	1935	10,678.15	132,260
	1936	10,005.84	124,571
Tin ore	1934	4.23	5,927
	1935	7.49	9,865
	1936	27.16	33,067
		Tahils.	
Gold ore	1934	1,726	85,913
	1935	591	29,752
	1936	545	12,590

The Japanese iron mine mentioned in last year's report is to start export in May, 1937.

The only district in which applications for Prospecting Licences were received was Ulu Kelantan. 30 applications were received and 20 licences issued during the year. 4 extensions were granted. The total area covered by these licences was 31,524 acres as compared with 18,610 acres in 1935. 17 individual prospecting permits were issued.

As a result of the discovery of manganese ore in the neighbourhood of Gunong Tahan, a Prospecting Licence over an area of 12,640 acres was issued with selection rights up to 5,250 acres to a substantially capitalised Japanese Company. The Company's engineer is now engaged in prospecting the area.

The large increase in the production of tin was due to the taking over from Trengganu of a large additional quota.

Digitized by Google

As regards gold, as in previous years, the only steady revenue came from pan washers who numbered 1,506 as against 1,499 in 1935 mostly Chinese. They produced 443 tahils, over 80% of the total output of 545 tahils for the State. A London Company, Gold Alluvial Ltd., made enquiries at the end of the year regarding the possibility of dredging certain portions of the bed of the Galas and Kelantan Rivers. Negotiations are, however, only in the primary stage, and it seems doubtful whether any definite application will eventuate.

Agriculture.

The people of Kelantan are mainly dependent on agriculture. The agricultural products of the State may be divided into two classes—those primarily intended for home consumption, and those intended for export. Of the first class, rice is the most important crop, and an area of nearly 150,000 acres is planted with rice. Sweet potatoes, yams, tapioca, ground nuts, sugarcane, ginger, bananas, and other fruit trees are extensively grown by small holders, both for their own consumption and for sale at the local markets. These markets, which are held in every fair-sized village, are in their developed form a special feature of Kelantan. Speaking subject to correction, owing to my short experience of this State, they have a double origin (i) as the site of a weekly fair visited by pedlars of piece goods and sundry goods, where the local small-holder can sell his miscellaneous agricultural produce and (ii) as the meeting place of the fish and agricultural trades, limited originally as to distance inland by the distance a runner could carry the day's catch sometimes along very primitive paths, a distance now extended by better paths, and the bicycle, and roads and the motor car.

Rubber is by far the most important of the exported products, but there are also substantial exports of copra and arecanuts. The steady rise in price throughout the year has maintained interest in this commodity, but methods of production leave much to be desired. The rubber manufactured on the large estates is similar in quality to that produced in the rest of Malaya, but in the case of small holdings typically the latex is passed once through a sieve consisting of a perforated half coconut shell and a handful of grass, and coagulation takes place in a rusty half kerosene tin after addition

Digitized by Google

of alum. The evil smelling produce may be partially sun-dried or induced to gain weight by the adherence of earth before sale to the local dealer, who forwards it for milling out into blanket crepe.

Some degree of success has been achieved by the advice and assistance given to smallholders by the Asiatic Rubber Instructor and other officers to produce a higher grade commodity under more cleanly conditions. The first step is usually to build a small shed for accomodating the rollers which may be purchased by instalments from the Department, with tables for the coagulating pans, and if the owner be a man of substance a smoke cabinet is put up at one end of the building. Most of the success seems to have been in Ulu Kelantan. There are two factories in the coastal district which buy wet or block rubber for milling, and if anything the production of this type of rubber anywhere within moderately easy reach of these factories has deteriorated further in quality. Legislation by Malacca and Johore during the year has resulted in the complete stoppage of the export trade in this wet rubber.

Diseases. - Mouldy Rot is widespread but seasonal in incidence, and like *Loranthus* which is a major pest, does not seem to be recognised as being deleterious to the tree. Supplies of approved fungicide are kept in stock by the Department and by some penggawas.

Pink disease and root diseases occur occasionally, but no case of defoliation from *Oidium* was observed.

Padi Hopes have been expressed in past annual reports that Kelantan would become the "granary of Malaya". There is as yet an absence of statistical material on which to base such a hope. What requires to be ascertained is not so much the total padi crop (and the possibilities of obtaining bigger yields) as the extent to which individual peasants' crops exceed the needs of the family for the ensuing year. A survey is in fact required of individual holdings of rice lands, and the yields of these holdings as compared with the annual consumption of rice by the owners of these holdings - the latter depending on the size of the individual families. A start on such an investigation is now being made in a few scattered sample localities. But it will probably be some time before the fact can be ascertained whether padi can be treated as an extensive money crop.

Digitized by Google

The general condition of the rice industry in Kelantan must be described as somewhat obscure. A tradition has grown up that up till 1923 it was a rice-importing country and that in 1924 the balance changed and it began to import more than it exported. The change is attributed to the greater profits to be made out of rubber. Information before 1925 gets sketchier and sketchier as one goes back. But fortunately there are figures of exports and imports of rice going back as far as 1921 (in the following figures I have reduced weights of padi to the equivalent weights of rice). It is true that in that particular year, 1923, there was an appreciable net export. The import was 1,758 pikuls, the export 9,433 pikuls, but this excess, converted into tons is very small: only 457 tons. (Compare the net import in 1936 5,346 tons, and in 1930 13,584 tons). The year before, 1922, there was a minute net export of 6 tons. The year before that, 1921, the balance was on the side of imports. In the previous years (during the general rice shortage) export was prohibited. Going back to 1917 there is the evidence that the value of the imports of rice exceeded that of the previous year by $44,000! The evidence seems to shew therefore that in recent times Kelantan has never done much more than supply its own needs. Tabulation of figures shews that the imports diminished very much during the slump years, reaching the lowest point in 1933, with a sharp rice in 1934, and that the population of South Indian estate labourers fell and rose again in the same way. But consumption by immigrant labour does not explain the variation in imports, for the two curves are by no means similar, and, moreover, the total consumption by this immigrant labour has all along been much smaller than the amount imported.

The area cultivated with rice has fluctuated from year to year, but on the whole there seems to have been a steady rise. It was 104,000 acres in the 1916-1917 season. It reached its maximum in 1933-1934—148,000 acres, and last year was 139,000 acres. The total production of rice has fluctuated rather more violently than the area planted, and sometimes in an opposite direction. Thus in the 1933-1934 season the 148,000 acres yielded only 55,359 tons, whereas last year the 139,000 acres yielded 74,008 tons (in both cases gantangs of padi have been converted into their equivalent weight of rice).

Digitized by Google

This variability of yield has been connected chiefly with rainfall and floods. As one reads back through

CORRIGENDA

Page 22, 3rd and 4th lines—
For "rice-importing" *read* "rice-exporting".

Page 57, Table of serious crime, Last column—
For "1836" *read* "1936".

padi, the [illegible] method, is to the best of my knowledge unique. The land is ploughed and then padi seed dibbled in with some baked cattle manure (on the top of the padi in the dibble holes). Ten years ago the present Commissioner of Lands, Trengganu, Mr. McKerron, then Assistant Adviser Besut, found that Kelantanese had introduced it into the Besut plain. He brought it to my notice and I myself, then Commissioner of Lands, Trengganu, tried to spread it in Trengganu generally, to replace the inferior method of broadcasting seed on ploughed land without manuring.

Information concerning the milling of padi will be found under "Manufactures".

Season 1935-36. The promise of a good dry padi crop, which represents nearly a quarter of the acreage of padi land in Kelantan, was fully fulfilled when a crop of over 5 million gantangs was harvested—the best for several years, although too much reliance cannot be placed upon the estimates of yield.

The wet padi crop which had had a bad start through shortage of water at and after the time of transplanting, made an excellant recovery and produced one of the heaviest crops in recent years. Very little damage was done by pests.

Season 1936-37. A late start was made with the ploughing of the land for the dry padi, and when operations were commenced a spell of damp weather prevented weeds from being killed out by the heat of the sun.

Digitized by Google

Planting did not generally take place until a dry spell in the middle of September, which in turn was followed by heavy rain in October, so preventing weeding of fields that had never been really clean. Early planted padi went in under good conditions for field cultivation, was properly weeded later, and should give a good crop, but the large areas of late planted padi have shown poor tillering and growth through being over-run with weeds, and the crop is likely to be rather light.

A late start was made with long term wet padi and although work was pushed forward with great energy it was not until the middle of November that it could be said that the majority of the land had been planted, and small areas were still being done in late December. Growth was good at the beginning of the season but at the end of the year it was showing signs of failing to maintain it.

Following the successful results obtained from experiments over a period of several years on the use of bat guano from local deposits for the manuring of wet padi, three small trials were laid down for the season 1936—7 on smallholders' land, so that results could be judged by the cultivators themselves on land with which they are familiar.

Irrigation and Drainage. The valuable work done on the improvement of the drainage of the coastal plain by the clearing, and in places the widening, of waterways was continued along the same lines as in 1935, and it is in part due to these undertakings that there were no cases of flood damage to any but very late planted padi.

Certain areas along the coast have been guarded against the inundation of sea water by building bunds and water control gates.

The existing irrigation systems were improved, and work was started on new schemes.

While some improvement has resulted from attempts made to get the *ràyat* to make better use of water for padi cultivation, it has only been after prolonged work in certain localities that any good has been done, and it will be a long time before conditions can be described as satisfactory throughout the State.

Digitized by Google

Sales of padi to Messrs. Boustead's rice mill at Tumpat were very much less than in the preceding year, possibly due to the improved prices for rubber and copra satisfying the ready cash requirements of the *ràyats* so that surplus padi need not be sold but may be kept as a food reserve in the event of hard times to come.

Coconuts and Copra. Copra production in the State tends to be seasonal, not only because of seasonal variation in nut production but also because of climatic conditions. During the dry spell of hot sunny weather which lasts for about eight months, a very good grade of sun-dried copra can be made, particularly along the coast. During the North East monsoon the heavy rain and transport difficulties bring production down, and the copra marketed is imperfectly dried on a roughly constructed platform over an exposed and smoky fire. Kiln drying by these means involves a lot of time tending the fire and guarding against the not infrequent total loss of copra through an over fierce fire scorching it and setting it alight.

Since recommendations and advice on the use of kilns were no more fruitful this year than in the past, a new line was taken up by building demonstration kilns in five localities in the hope that smallholders living nearby would use them, get accustomed to the idea of producing a good grade of copra with an over-all drying period of about one day, and in time they and their friends copy them for themselves. The kilns aroused definite interest though it was mingled with scepticism as to their reputed performance. A nut shortage during the later part of the year prevented as much use being made of them as was wished, and a certain reluctance to break away from traditional methods of manufacture was also noticed.

Quite a large proportion of the nut harvesting in the State is done with the help of the pig-tailed monkey *shd: be* who is a familiar sight on the roadsides loping along with his master. A well trained adult animal is worth up to $40.00, training being given locally to youngsters obtained at a cost of $15.00 to $20.00 from not only Kelantan, but also Trengganu, Pahang and Johore.

Digitized by Google

Pests. Squirrels continued to be an important pest of coconuts in many localities, their control being a matter requiring constant vigilance. Smallholders were encouraged to shoot them by the distribution of powder, shot and caps from departmental stocks in exchange for tails. The scheme worked satisfactorily, and a large number of squirrels was destroyed. At one time steel cartridge cases were loaned to shooters, but it was found that better results were obtained with old paper cases which could be reloaded about ten times. Percussion caps were reloaded three times before the end of their useful life.

Fruit. The fruit season was a poor one this year, and only limited supplies of fruit of indifferent quality were on the market. Some rambutans of Penang origin were imported and planted, and planting material was also brought in from Trengganu.

Tobacco. Tobacco is a fairly common off season crop grown on dry padi land in small areas, which do little more than supply the growers own requirements. The price on the market is high, and ranged between $80.00 and, in May, $120.00 per picul of first quality prepared leaf. Cultivation is quite well done, with either a dust mulch or coconut leaves on the *rong* to conserve moisture. The plants however are rarely topped and produce a small sized leaf. Curing consists of finely cutting the green leaf and drying in the sun.

Other Crops. A considerable area of perennial and short term crops exists, the latter being frequently on dry padi land as for tobacco, but there is no means of estimating these areas. Maize and groundnuts are commonly grown on the fertile alluvial soil along the banks and on islands of the Kelantan river during the dry weather, and miscellaneous vegetables in the neighbourhood of the larger towns.

Poultry. Poultry rearing showed a decline throughout the whole year, a diminution in the export trade with Singapore being coupled with a marked rise in price locally. Outbreaks of disease occured in a number of localities, but they cannot be held to be entirely responsible

Digitized by Google

for this reduction. Rhode Island Red stock distributed thrived on the whole satisfactorily under conditions that are not always of the best, and were a source of interest to many. Their half bred progeny are of promising appearance.

Cattle and Buffaloes. Going back through Annual Reports and other records one is struck by two aspects of the livestock problem. On the one hand hope is expressed that the Kelantan plain should eventually be able to supply to the rest of the country the oxen and buffaloes now imported from Siam. On the other hand it is very clear that both oxen and buffaloes have been for the Kelantanese almost exclusively a means of ploughing their land. At times the export of cattle has been prohibited on account of shortage of draught cattle. Twenty years ago when there were about 30,000 acres less land under padi than there now is, the problem seemed to be as acute as it is now to find sufficient grazing for them in the padi season.

It may be as well to emphasize the absolute necessity of draught cattle for the Kelantan padi planter. Comparing Kelantan with Perak for instance; all settled rice lands in Perak are irrigable. At the start of the cultivation season it is possible to flood the whole extent of rice land, and the soil so softened can be cultivated by means of a flail *(tajak)*.

It is a question for argument in Perak whether the buffalo by its consumption of organic matter, which might otherwise be dug into the soil, does not do more harm than good. In Kelantan it has been possible to irrigate only very small areas. Land has to be cultivated in a dry, hard condition and draught cattle and the plough are the only solution.

If an export trade is to be built up it will have to be treated as something outside the ordinary run of ideas of the Kelantan Malay. Much propaganda and careful nursing will be necessary.

With regard to 1936 the State Agricultural Officer reports as follows:—

Digitized by Google

"The heavy stocking of the State with cattle and buffaloes leads to serious difficulties in finding fodder during the padi season and a great falling off in condition of the animals at this period. Where cattle cannot graze, such as on *batas* and in the vicinity of private houses, there old men and boys collect together and meticulously shave off the grass with small sickles and placing it in a *chagak rumput* carry it off to feed their stock. With the intention of relieving this acute shortage of fodder, a total of 12,459 acres of land has been reserved for cattle grazing, an increase of 5,627 acres during the year. A large proportion of this land is very poor and unfit for ordinary cultivation, but should be capable of producing moderate quantities of fodder at least during the critical time of year.

The annual stock census showed that there were 38,026 buffaloes (an increase of 3,197) and 109,214 cattle (a decrease of 825),

The experimental reserve, upon which work was started in 1935 was enlarged further, and trial plantings made with various varieties of grazing grasses after the heavy *blukar* had been felled and burnt. Plantings from seed were not a success this year, as the seedlings were eaten off by *kechirit* (crickets) as quickly as they sprouted up, and the area had to be replanted with carpet grass cuttings from an earlier established nursery.

A little progress was made with clearing reserves in other parts of the State by the *ràyats* themselves felling and burning about 175 acres, but owing to the seasonal nature of the work rapid jungle regeneration has a chance to assert itself, natural establishment of local grasses is slow, and the types of grass which do appear often leave much to be desired in the way of quality."

Experimental Work.

The assistance which an Agricultural department can give to the agricultural industry depends only indirectly on general agricultural theory: with the help of this theory the problems presented by any particular country have to be worked out by experiment. By means of experiment the best local varieties of various crops

Digitized by Google

have to be selected, already known varieties from elsewhere deemed likely to be suited to local soil and climate have to be tested, cultivation and manurial methods have to be tried with these crop varieties on different local soils. The situation which has just been reached in Kelantan is that the first definite results have been obtained from among a rather large series of these fundamental experiments. Particularly in the matter of rice cultivation the department is at last in the position to recommend with confidence certain strains of padi seed for certain soils, and certain cultivation and manurial methods for certain specific conditions. Further experimental work is being directed towards similar concrete results.

Central Experiment Station.

Area about 29 acres.

Season 1935-36. The season was a good one for the dry padi crop, but, as it ripened considerably earlier than other padi in the neighbourhood, a lot of bird damage was experienced. Because of this, no results were obtained from the dry padi manurial and seed per hole experiments. In a small cultivation experiment, deep changkolling of the land in July, a fortnight before sowing, gave an increase in yield of 50%.

Eleven experiments were carried out on wet padi. In the manurial trials bat guano again showed significant and economic increases in yield, and in a complex manurial experiment it was demonstrated that the soil required nitrogen in addition to phosphate, with a further increase in yield if the nitrogen is applied in two dressings.

Season 1936-37. Dry padi experiments of the previous season were continued, the only alteration being the enlargement of the cultivation experiment which has been designed to run for a period of 3 years.

The new manurial experiments on wet padi were started, both of them being of the standard types which are being run at Experiment Stations in other parts of Malaya to investigate phosphates and insoluble nitrogenous manures.

Digitized by Google

School Gardens

Thirty two school gardens were under cultivation during the year, of which twenty five were regularly visited with occasional visits to the least accessible. The standard of cultivation was good generally, but particularly on the light sandy soils manuring was deficient. Planting in beds and the construction of drains are both not fully understood.

The School Gardens Cup and Bachok District Shield were won by Sering, whilst Kota Bharu, Pasir Puteh and Pasir Mas District Shields were awarded to Mulong, Kampong Danan and Wakaf Bharu respectively.

Agricultural Show.

The fourth State Agricultural Show was held at Peringat on June 9th, with total of 50 classes in the 6 sections. Good entries were received for cereals, coconut products and vegetables. A rubber factory and copra kiln for smallholders were put up for demonstration in addition to the Departmental exhibit showing the increased yield from padi manured with bat guano, fodder and grazing grasses, and copra samples.

Fisheries.

The coastal population lives mainly by fishing except when high seas are running during the North-East monsoon period, and it is too rough for them to put out. Even during this monsoon a small quantity of fish is, however, caught by means of casting-nets. In the fair weather the fishermen, who are all Malays, put out to sea either for the whole day or the whole night and catch their fish chiefly by means of seine nets, each net usually handled by a small fleet of 5 boats. Fish are also caught on hook and line.

Most of the fish caught is sold fresh at the different markets and consumed locally, but some is also exported in the form of dried fish. The export of dried fish in 1936 was 460 tons valued at $48,885/- as against 437.50 tons valued at $46,775/- in the previous year.

Digitized by Google

A peculiar point is that the import of dried fish went up from a value of $9,814/- in 1935 to $29,264/- in 1936. It is not too clear what interpretation is to be placed on this increase in imports. It is, however, significant that Malay capitalists seem to have realised before the end of of 1936 that an extension of the fishing industry was possible. An entirely new departure, so far as Kelantan is concerned, was made in the construction before the end of the year of two large fish traps of the variety known as *kelong* constructed in three fathoms of water, four miles off the shore. The cost of constructing such a *kelong* is roughly $1,000/-. Construction of three more such *kelong* started early in 1937. It had usually been considered that the seas on the East Coast were too rough for such structures to be able to stand up to a North-East monsoon.

Manufactures.

The Kelantan Match Factory is reported to have had a successful year and the quality of the matches produced was further improved. *Terentang* was the sole wood employed in manufacture and no difficulty was experienced with regard to supplies.

The proprietor of the Factory had under consideration the erection of a factory for the manufacture of plywood and was busy at the end of the year collecting information upon the many points involved. It is hoped the proposal will take practical shape and thereby assist appreciably in the more thorough exploitation of the forest, besides making a welcome addition to revenue.

Messrs. Boustead & Co. opened a Rice Mill at Tumpat in time for the harvest early in 1935. Their purchases in 1935 amounted to 57,533 piculs and in 1936 to 9,482 piculs. The equivalents in tons of rice are 2,549 and 410 tons. The amount now being offered for sale in 1937 shows signs of a further falling off. The manager tells me that he thinks there has been about the same surplus of padi available in the three seasons in question but that with rubber heavily restricted in 1935, and both rubber and copra at a low price, padi was then used as the major money crop, and that with rubber and copra increasing in price these are now being used as the money crops, padi being hoarded against possible eventualities.

Digitized by Google

He assures me that last year he bought some hoarded padi, hoarded in extreme cases for as long as 20 years. This interpretation of the situation may well be correct.

Most of the rice consumed by the peasants is husked by themselves. As far as I can make out those who have small stocks of padi husk it by the extremely tedious method of pestle and mortar, those who have larger stocks use a diminutive hand mill named *'kisar'*, in which an upper circular stone revolves over a circular lower stone, both stones being in fact composed of a variety of hard and brittle wood enclosed in a basket-work frame. Pestle and mortar are invariably handled by women, the hand-mill usually by men. The latter is the much more efficient instrument. I am informed however, that a third kind of instrument is also used, the *lesong-hindek*, a pestle worked by foot, intermediate between the other two in efficiency.

The Lian Tong Rubber Factory, which opened last year has been converting low grade wet slab rubber into blanket crepe. Propaganda by the Asiatic Rubber Instructor has, however, led to a great increase in the production of sheet which can be exported as such without milling. Wet slab rubber is now only being produced within easy reach of this factory, and it seems likely that supplies will in time become short.

Cottage Industries.

Kelantan is one of the few Malay States in which cottage industries have remained alive. These have been chiefly weaving, mat-making, silver and other metal work, and carpentry. I am not in a position to give any estimate of the quantities produced nor, with any confidence, of the health of these industries. Weaving and silver work are assisted by a branch of the Malayan Arts and Crafts Society which receives an annual grant from Government. Some of the silver work has surprised me by its fineness, but the weaving industry in general strikes me as in unhealthy condition as compared with that in the neighbouring State of Trengganu. Customs figures show that whereas there is little export from Kelantan, there are appreciable imports into Kelantan from Trengganu.

Digitized by Google

Weaving in Trengganu is generally associated with the fishing population, yet I am assured that in the entire coastal district of Bachok for instance there is now no weaving. From personal enquiries made by myself in a fishing village near Kota Bharu it would appear that weaving has ceased so recently that looms are still stored under some of the houses. I was informed that the reason why weaving had stopped was that the competition of cheap imported cloth was too great. I am informed that the most successful line of Kelantan sarong is a mixture of artificial silk and mercerised cotton. Trengganu, however, appears to have reverted successfully to pure silk. There is no weaving of material for silk suits such as is still produced in Trengganu. *

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The total value of imports and exports including re-exports bullion and parcel post, for the last seven years is as follows:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports and Re-Exports.		Trade Balance.
1930	$6,276,226	$4,189,374	-	$2,086,852
1931	2,977,158	2,854,079	-	123,079
1932	3,161,326	2,428,196	-	733,130
1933	4,057,602	3,454,098	-	603,504
1934	5,571,181	5,576,086	+	4,905
1935	5,453,893	5,018,208	-	435,685
1936	6,562,911	7,107,503	+	544,592

Note.

* Since writing the above I have been informed that there are only three centres in which weaving is carried on actively in Kelantan, all in, or in close proximity to Kota Bharu, (i) a cottage industry in a neighbouring Kampong producing a cheap line in woven sarongs (ii) *one* elderly woman producing a high quality silk sarong incorporating gold thread for sale to the palace, and (iii) a successful small factory in the town in which "Batek" sarongs are made by printing English piece-goods with dyes dissolved in wax.

That there has been a general decline in sarong weaving in the last quarter of a century is evidenced by the following passage in Mr. J.S. Mason's second annual report, signed in April 1911: " ..... in Kota Bharu . . . almost every house possesses a loom at which the daughters of the house work for long hours daily".

Digitized by Google

It will be seen that the total value of the trade of the State for 1936 was $13,670,414 as against $10,472,101 in 1935, an increase of $3,198,313, or 30.5% of the 1935 figure.

Exports. The bigger increases and decreases were as follows:—

	Increase. $	Decrease. $
Rice	-	25,372
Cattle	-	56,566
Arecanuts	22,517	-
Tin Ore	23,202	-
Gold Ore	-	17,162
Copra	435,041	-
Rubber	1,693,949	-
Cinematographic films	42,931	-
Silver coins	-	22,600

The drop in the exports of rice was from 428 tons to 10 tons. The drop may seem large, but the quantities, in themselves, are very small.

The increases in the value of exports of arecanuts, tin ore, copra and rubber paid for the increases in imports which enabled the standard of living to be generally raised.

The continued drop in the export trade in cattle seems unfortunate. Interpretation of this would be pure guess-work. The explanation may possibly be that there has been a greater internal trade, with a higher consumption of meat per head of population. The returns of cattle slaughtered supplied by District Officers shew that there was actually an increase of 651 in the number of cattle slaughtered during the year, equivalent to about 5% of the 1935 figure, but this would hardly account for the whole drop in the value of the exports. Incidentally the latter returns indicate that the average consumption of red meat is very low.

Imports. The more important variations in the value of imports are follows:—

Digitized by Google

	1935.	1936.		Increases and Decreases.
	$	$		$
Rice	101,263	300,583	+	199,320
Wheat flour	64,488	90,168	+	25,680
Biscuits	32,967	58,341	+	25,374
Confectionery	11,767	24,669	+	12,902
Dried Fish	9,814	29,264	+	19,450
Sardines (canned)	6,314	18,076	+	11,762
Fresh fruits	51,626	142,945	+	91,319
Condensed Milk	92,772	112,046	+	19,274
Salt	34,108	19,678	-	14,430
Sugar	124,305	165,906	+	41,601
Onions and Garlic	138,467	179,954	+	41,487
Other provisions not elsewhere specified	22,236	34,694	+	12,458
Cigarettes	429,866	533,060	+	103,194
Crockery & Procelain	63,943	81,297	+	17,354
Cement	29,685	43,131	+	13,446
Iron galvanised (corrugated and sheet)	33,998	54,934	+	20,936
Wrought iron & steel	23,702	11,386	-	12,316
Cinematographie Films	62,396	107,199	+	44,803
Cotton manufactures	934,004	1,071,470	+	137,466
Silk piece goods	64,774	45,065	-	19,709
Artificial Silk piece goods	597,854	512,860	-	84,994
Boots and Shoes (leather)	25,736	46,092	+	20,356
Formic Acid	16,848	28,066	+	11,218
Other Raw Drugs and Medicine	78,728	61,400	-	17,328
Kerosene	185,771	196,929	+	11,158
Motor spirit	281,945	333,929	+	51,984
Bicycles	44,765	65,132	+	20,367
Part for Motor Cars and trucks	43,021	54,214	+	11,193
Part for Bicycles	30,672	41,852	+	11,180
Motor Vessels	—	19,150	+	19,150
Books and printed matter	38,246	48,898	+	10,652
Jewellery and Goldsmith ware	17,000	36,089	+	19,089
Gold	15,612	42,691	+	27,079

Digitized by Google

The very large percentage increases, particularly of luxury articles, indicate a considerable rise in the standard of living. Attention is particularly invited to confectionery, fresh fruits, cigarettes, leather boots and shoes, bicycles, books and printed matter, jewellery and gold.

The increase in the imports of formic acid is an indication of the success of the Agricultural Department in its propaganda for the production of higher quality rubber sheet, and, in particular, for the use of formic acid as a coagulant instead of alum. An increase in the import duty on alum no doubt helped.

The large increase in the import of *rice* gives a false picture of conditions; for in 1935 there had been a temporary and severe drop.

Year.	Rice Imports in Tons	Rice Exports in Tons	Purchase of padi by Boustead converted into tons of rice.	Total production of padi in the State in terms of tons of rice.
1934	5,915	10	Nil	55,362
1935	1,681	428	2,549	68,837
1936	5,356	10	410	74,008

It will be seen that the drop in 1935 imports was largely accounted for by the production of rice within the country by Messrs. Boustead & Co. The increase in 1936 was similarly partly to be accounted for by the smaller production of rice by Messrs. Boustead & Co. Why, with a continued increase in the amount of padi produced in Kelantan, the mill was able to buy so little in 1936 is another problem. The explanations must be more lavish consumption and hoarding.

There was a decrease in both quantity and value of silk piece goods imported, but a decrease only in the value of artificial silk piece goods, imports being in general of lower quality than formerly. There are no data on which to form an opinion whether there was any corresponding increase in the weaving of Sarongs locally.

Increases and decreases in the amount of customs duty collected for the more important articles are as follows:—

Digitized by Google

	Estimates 1936	Actual 1936	Actual 1935	Actual 1934
	$	$	$	$
Export Duty—				
Betelnuts	10,000	10,773	9,545	5,981
Coconuts & Copra and coconut oil	5,000	15,573	2,738	10,428
Rubber	100,000	145,648	109,778	116,955
Cattle	7,000	3,973	7,180	7,521
Poultry	8,000	2,581	6,356	7,726
Dried fish	2,500	1,958	1,877	3,501
Tin Ore	8,000	3,181	986	-
Manganese Ore	7,000	8,004	6,407	5,393
Import Duty—				
Kerosene & Bezine	179,000	202,141	180,651	134,284
Spirits	34,000	60,353	42,558	31,377
Sugar	110,000	158,224	111,896	86,120
Tobacco	200,000	272,592	197,111	177,619
Miscellaneous Goods	267,500	337,185	296,637	286,750
Excise—				
Matches	11,000	12,720	10,560	13,103
Marine—				
Boat licences	13,600	12,877	11,533	13,411
Light dues and shipping fees	6,500	6,850	6,899	6,893

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND THE COST OF LIVING.

The essential fact to realise is that the vast majority of the population of Kelantan consists of yeoman peasants and fishermen. Only about 1.7% of the population can be classed as a proletariat, and probably half of these, being local Malays, possess land of their own and give up only part of their time to occupations in which they earn daily wages.

Digitized by Google

A new Labour Enactment was passed early in the year. Except for such modifications as are required to adapt it to the administrative system of the State, it is uniform with those in force in other parts of Malaya.

Under this Enactment the standard wage for Indians throughout the year was 47 cents for men and 37 cents for women. With 25 days a month work $11.75 and $9.25 would be earned at these rates.

The price of foodstuffs remained very low indeed throughout the year and the full monthly living budget averaged $6.33 per head as against $6.42 in 1935. For those Indians who eat Kelantan rice the monthly budget worked out at $5.86.

By law maternity benefits have to be paid to all female labourers, the amount being based on the average monthly wage earned prior to the date of confinement.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Historical.

Kelantan came under a Siamese Adviser in the person of Mr. W. A. Graham (an Englishman) in 1903. The first Malay School in Kota Bharu was opened the same year. Mohamed Ghazaly is mentioned by name as headmaster in the 1907 Annual Report. "The prosperity of the school is entirely due to the energy and enthusiasm of the Headmaster, Mohamed Ghazaly, who has done all that is possible to create a demand for education and to make his school attractive". The report continues: "The number of those receiving instruction in Mohammedan Law and in Arabic at the Mosque school has increased from 50 to 92 during the year under report. The Guru would seem to be acquiring a wide reputation as an exponent of the Law, for included amongst those who resort to him for instruction are youths from Patani, Tringganu, Kedah, Pahang, Perak and Pontianak".

This reputation of Kota Bharu as the centre of Mohammedan learning has been well known to me as far south as Negri Sembilan when I was serving there 10 and 15 years ago.

Digitized by Google

For 25 years Mohamed Ghazaly appears to have been responsible for the organizatian of education in Kelantan though he retired with the title merely of Visiting Teacher. There was certainly no Education Department in existence and the presumption is that there was very little organization.

In 1928 there were 41 schools with an average enrolment of 2,539. The condition of these schools was most unsatisfactory. Books were inadequate. The benches meant for three boys invariably seated five or six. There was no proper equipment and most of the teachers were not fit to be schoolmasters. Moreover there was a general atmosphere of distrust of secular education, and of apathy towards education in general, and parents grudged the loss of their children from domestic tasks.

It was under these conditions that an education department was formed, presided over by Inche Abdul Hadi bin Haji Hassan, seconded from an assistant mastership at the Sultan Idris Training College (in Perak). The schools were reorganised and the standards of Malayan vernacular education elsewhere adopted.

The next year a training school was established under two qualified teachers seconded from the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States Services. At the end of a two years' course 46 students qualified and formed the nucleus of an efficient teaching staff for the vernacular schools.

In that year, 1931, a European, Mr. H. R. Carey, was seconded from the Straits Settlements Education Department as Superintendent of Education Kelantan. Most unfortunately the rigours of the slump necessitated the retrenchment of this post a year later, in March 1932, and Inche Abdul Hadi had to resume responsibility. Though this was clearly beyond his capacity he has left his mark on the department and fired some of the personel with his enthusiasm.

In June 1933 a severe setback occurred with the forced retirement of Inche Abdul Hadi owing to ill health. The finances of the State were such as to prohibit the appointment of an experienced man as his

Digitized by Google

successor. There were at that time 65 Malay Schools with 3,706 pupils. The teaching staff consisted of 12 teachers trained at the Sultan Idris Training College, 46 teachers trained locally, and 67 untrained teachers. There existed also 11 private schools in which English was taught, 11 Chinese Schools and one Tamil School. Among the English Schools was the Majlis Ugama Islam, a body somewhat similar to the Queen Anne's bounty, which deals with matters relating to the faith of Islam, and provides classes for instruction in elementary English and in the Malay language, as well as in religious subjects. This institution is the only one which has held classes in English since 1916 without a break, and it is from among its pupils that Government has hitherto selected most of the boys whom it has sent to Malayan institutions elsewhere, such as ths Malay College at Kuala Kangsar and the Penang Free School, for the staffing of its administrative departments.

In June 1933 Tengku Mahmood Mahyiddeen, who had had no previous educational experience, was sent to Johore for one month's training under the Superintendent of Education Johore. In July he assumed responsibility for Kelantan education with the title "Inspector of Malay Schools". I can probably give the most accurate picture of the progress which has occurred under his leadership by quotations from the report of the Inspector of Schools Singapore and Labuan who inspected the Kelantan schools in April 1936.

"In general, the conclusion I have formed from my inspection regarding the work of the Kelantan schools is that as good work as is possible under existing conditions is being done. The Kelantan Government is undoubtedly obtaining full value for its expenditure on education. It would be fallacious to institute comparisons with other parts of the Peninsula where the ages of the pupils are lower, and where a larger proportion of the staff is qualified. But the teachers are on the whole working to the very best of their ability and in some subjects, particularly in gardening, the development of local industries, and in composition and writing, the standard bears comparison with the work done anywhere".

Digitized by Google

"The organisation of the Malay schools in Kelantan is worthy of the highest praise. The groups are well arranged and the duties of group teachers, head teachers and assistants clearly defined. There is, too, special attention to out-of school organisations such as games and Scouts".

"Tengku Mahmood Mahyiddeen has shown unusual initiative and a grasp of essentials, unusual in one who has not received special training in teaching. I was greatly struck with some of his improvements on the records and forms used elsewhere. I constantly came across, not merely indications of his special interest in his work but also innovations due to an alert and fertile mind".

Under "quality of staff" improvement must depend upon (a) more college trained men, (b) more local training. The more college trained men the State can afford to provide, the more successful will be the local training. The Saturday Normal Classes in the various districts for local training, that is, classes to improve the scholastic qualifications of the untrained teachers and the pupil teachers are doing excellent work. Progress may seem to be slow, but this is the kind of work that exercises an influence greater than can be shown by the examination results. With the older men, consideration has to be given to past service and a high standard cannot reasonably be expected. But with younger men a rigid standard can be demanded and is being demanded. The schools are producing a steady supply of youngsters from whom, with careful selection and pruning, a better type of pupil teacher and college recruit can be obtained. In addition to the excellent Saturday classes for teachers, another innovation of great potential value is the *Darjah Khas* in the Padang Garong school. This is a training ground for pupil teachers. I found the standard of work in this class comparable with that of similar pupil teachers' classes anywhere. It is the happiest augury for the future of the schools".

"In the past two or three years Kelantan has certainly joined the main stream of educational progress as far as its Malay Schools are concerned. The Inspector of Schools is familiar with all the more recent develop-

Digitized by Google

ments in the Malay Schools throughout the Peninsula, and has obviously gone to much trouble to keep abreast of the times. Moreover he has modified what he has learnt to suit local conditions".

The attitude of the rural population towards schools has changed entirely from the apathy described as existing in 1928. In many cases the villagers themselves have given school sites and have helped with work and materials in building, at small cost to the State, temporary schools which will ultimately be replaced by permanent buildings. In one village which I have visited a mosque and a school, each costing about $3,000/-, have been donated by a rich villager. Another school, that most closely connected with Inche Abdul Hadi mentioned above, and which would normally have cost about $4,000/- to erect, was constructed with the assistance of a contribution of $1,500/- from the State. The scholars themselves made and baked bricks for the foundations and flooring of the school, the Sea Scout troupe assisted in floating and hauling timber and in thatching the roof. Subscriptions were given by successful old boys, and the people of the village gave labour free, or at favourable rates, for carpentry in the erection of the building. Incidentally brick-making has remained as a co-operative enterprise in the School.

New Developments.

At the beginning of the year a Government English School named after His Highness the Sultan "The Ismail English School" was opened with a view giving education to boys up to the Junior Cambridge Standard and to providing a basis for the selection of promising scholarship students and also for the filling of vacancies in the junior grades of the Clerical Service. A maximum of 40 pupils is admitted each year, 20 of whom are selected from successful candidates in Standards IV and V of the Malay Vernacular Schools who can comply with the school age limits. These boys are exempted from paying fees. The other 20, who are selected by a Committee consisting of members appointed by Government, are required to pay school fees at the rate of $1/- per month. Ten of them have to be Malays and ten to be drawn from other nationalities. Early in the year there were 42 boys on the

Digitized by Google

roll, but during the course of the year 9 pupils left the school: thus at the end of the year the school had an enrolment of 33. The average enrolment was 37, the average attendance 33, and the percentage of attendance 88.3%.

A Malay Girls' Vernacular School was also opened early in the year. The average enrolment throughout the year was 95 and percentage attendance 94.5%. The staff comprised three women teachers. Sewing and crochet work were taught, and it is hoped that, when facilities are available, cookery will be included in the school curriculum. The results of examinations in this School were very encouraging and, as soon as the women teachers who have been sent to the Womens Training Centre at Malacca, return to the State, it is hoped fo run the school on the same lines as the Girls' Schools of the larger Administrations of Malaya.

Though this is the first girls' school in the country it is not to be understood that no girls have received any education. Most of the Malay schools contain quite a large number of girls who are being educated with their brothers.

During the year it was decided to open a Malay girls' English School at Kota Bharu, and a qualified Headmistress from the Straits Settlements will be seconded for a period of three years to organize this school as well as girls' education in general. Admission into this School will be on the same lines as that into the "Ismail English School" referred to above.

General.

Promising youths of good parentage who are destined for particular technical departments are maintained at the higher Institutions of Malaya such as the Serdang School of Agriculture, Technical Schools of the Survey and Posts and Telegraphs Department, Forest Department and the F.M.S. Customs Department.

During the year a number of students returned from schools outside the State after completion of their

Digitized by Google

School Certificate Examinations and were taken on as probationary Malay Officers. These probationers have shown aptitude, energy and capacity for their particular work as a result of their training and association with other races whilst in school.

Satisfactory reports continued to be received from England on the progress made by Tengku Abdullah, Tengku Indra Petra and Tengku Yahya, nephews of His Highness the Sultan. Tengku Abdullah is working hard for the L.L.B. degree and it has been decided that as soon as he has passed the examination he shall return to the State for entry into Government Service.

The Education Department was in charge of Tengku Mahmood Mahyiddeen, Inspector of Malay Schools.

The number of Vernacular Schools in the State was 59 as against 58 at the end of the previous year. These are divided into seven groups each with a Group Teacher to supervise the work of the pupil teachers.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT.

The State possesses three ports, viz: Tumpat, Bachok and Semerak, at which coasting steamers, plying between Singapore and Bangkok, call regularly both for passengers and goods, except during the north-east monsoon (November to January) when sea transport becomes difficult and uncertain owing to heavy gales. Down to quite recent times, this was the only means of communication with the outside world, and trade was in those days dependent entirely upon the use of steamers and sailing vessels. The gross tonnage of steamers calling at these ports during 1936 was 214,000 as against 213,000 in the previous year; and the gross capacity of sailing vessels was 124,000 piculs as against 86,000 piculs in 1935.

By rail the State has been for some years connected with Bangkok, and also with Penang, through lower Siam and Kedah. Since the opening in 1931 of the East Coast Railway, there has been direct communication with

Digitized by Google

Singapore through Pahang. Beside the daily slower trains, a fast through Mail Train with sleeping berths runs once a week in each direction and does the journey in less than 24 hours.

Internal communication is by means of rivers, roads, bridle paths and railways. The rivers are still widely used as a highway between places not connected by rail or road. The total mileage of roads maintained by the Public works Department at the end of the year was 233. These roads are distributed over the North Eastern area of the State, where road communications are adequate. The road system connects through Pasir Puteh with that of the adjoining State of Trengganu at Besut. There is no road connection with the Federated Malay States. The road which goes southward from Kota Bharu, the the capital, ends 43 miles away at Kuala Krai, the headquarters of the Ulu Kelantan district. The East Coast line of the Federated Malay States Railways traverses the whole State and runs from Gua Musang near the Pahang boundary through Kuala Krai—a road, rail and river junction,—Pasir Mas—a rail junction from which a branch line links up with the Siamese Railways at Sungei Golok,—to the East Coast terminus at the small open port of Tumpat.

Hire cars, omnibuses and lorries are available on all roads in Kelantan for the conveyance of passengers as well as goods at moderate rates.

In addition to these roads there are some private estate roads, mostly branching off the public road.

There is also a growing extension of a system of earth or sand roads constructed by the peasants themselves under the organising impetus ot the District officer or the Penggawa—with very small or no contribution from Government, except for bridge building. I think I am right in saying that the first bit of work of this sort in Malaya was accomplished by the late Mr. R. G. B. Farrer in Pasir Puteh in 1927 and 1928, starting with a road from Pasir Puteh to the sea at Semerak and along the coast to the Trengganu boundary. I myself drove into Kelantan from Trengganu by this road in 1928 shortly after Mr. Farrer's lamented death. His example is still

Digitized by Google

followed by energetic district officers and penggawas. In the flat Kelantan plain it offers no engineering problem to lay down a line along property boundaries. The frontagers give up their land free, cut their own trees without compensation, dig drains along the side and level the surface. As soon as bridges can be put in bicycles with side cars can circulate, bullock carts, or even light motor cars.

Bridle Paths. The construction and maintenance of paths which can hardly be graced by the name "bridle path" has been organised by local headmen from a time apparently before British Protection. They are very narrow, without drains, and the bridges are usually trestles supporting planks laid lengthways. In recent years the system has been considerably extended in Ulu Kelantan, Owing to the size of the rivers and the severity of the floods the bigger bridges are of the suspension type slung between trees by means of long lengths of rattan.

Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones.

Post Offices were maintained at Kota Bharu, Kuala Krai, Temangan, Pasir Mas, Tumpat and Pasir Puteh, together with 14 Postal Agencies in the smaller villages. All Post Offices, besides ordinary postal work, do telegraphy, Cash-On Delivery, Money Order and Savings Bank work, while Kota Bharu and Kuala Krai in addition transact postal insurance business. The approximate number of ordinary postal articles received was 326,000 and despatched 193,000 compared with 276,000 and 166,000 respectively in 1935.

12,200 registered articles were received from other Administrations and 13,800 despatched, compared with 10,200 and 10,300 respectively in 1935. The corresponding figures for parcels were 8,100 and 1,700, compared with 7,200 and 1,700. There was also a small increase in postal order and a large increase in money order business. The gross sale of stamps for fiscal and postal purposes was $83,100 compared with $66,000 in 1935—a considerable increase.

Digitized by Google

Communications were well maintained and during the year there were no serious interruptions to record. The north-east monsoon did no serious damage to communications.

Whenever the main telegraph circuit with Kuala Lumpur was interrupted, the Kuala Krai wireless station was used instead, with our operator working the wireless set. The number of telegrams, received from and despatched to places outside the State was 15,000 and 18,000 respectively, showing a total increase of 3,000 telegrams handled, compared with the corresponding figure for 1935. This increase is thought to be due to fluctuating markets.

There are three wireless transmitting and receiving sets in Kelantan, one at Kota Bharu, belonging to the Royal Air Force, one at Kemubu and one at Kuala Krai, both belonging to the Federated Malay States Railways. 22 wireless receiving sets were registered during the year as opposed to 21 in 1935.

The number of telephone exchanges remained the same, viz: 4 operated by Post Offices and 2 operated by Police Stations. Trunk Calls recorded and fees collected were 37,126 and $4,198/- respectively, compared with 29,065 and $3,453/-, being the corresponding figures for 1935, and the total number of subscribers was 119 compared with 104.

Tele-communications have been much improved by the secondment of the Engineer, Posts and Telegraphs, Kuala Lipis, to Kelantan on a part-time basis and by the secondment from the Federated Malay States to Kelantan of a trained Technical Assistant under his supervision.

The Savings Bank transactions during 1936 were as follows:—

	1935		1936	
		$		$
Deposits	1,511	68,275	1,823	83,015.66
Withdrawals	898	40,561	880	57,438.35

Digitized by Google

At the beginning of the year there were 753 depositors and at the end 1066. 313 accounts were opened during the year and 125 closed, a net increase of 45 accounts compared with a net increase of 162 accounts in 1935.

The year under review has again been a prosperous one and all heads of revenue show further increases. Though no substantial extensions of postal facilities has been found necessary, the public has continued to make more use of the existing facilities. Money Order business especially shows a further striking increase, the total transactions amounting to over a million dollars.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The Banks doing business in Kelantan are the Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., and the Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation, Ltd. Both have branches at Kota Bharu. There are no Agricultural or Co-operative Banks.

The currency and weights and measures in use are the same as those in use in the Colony of the Straits Settlements.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The annual report on the activities of the Public Works Department, Kelantan, for the year 1936 is a record of trying to carry on the public works of the State in a reasonable state of efficiency with inadequate staff to carry out investigations, prepare plans and estimates, and supervise the programme of works.

The total expenditure under all headings including supplements was $405,856.75 out of a total provision of $458,438.72, thus 88 per cent of the provision made was expended.

The total expenditure in 1935 was $266,427.74. The figure for 1936, therefore, shows an increase of $139,429.01 over that for 1935, an increase of 52 per cent.

Digitized by Google

Revenue.

The revenue collected by and for the department during the year was $10,620.12. $2,494.52 of this is profit on the working of the Public Works Department Store and Factory, $5,372.26 from water supply charges and $2,753.34 from private water supply installations.

The only items in the Estimates for Public Works Department Special Services Works and Buildings costing over $10,000/- were three additional wards for the Kota Bharu Hospital, the New Residency and the Padang Garong Malay School. The last item, a Malay School for 300 boys, was constructed by departmental Malay labour, and if sufficient trained supervision was available the construction of large buildings could be carried out economically by using direct labour. This will be extended next year when several Special Service Items including a Semi-Permanent Court House will be constructed by departmental Malay labour.

Roads, Streets and Bridges.

Annually Recurrent. The total mileage of roads in Kelantan maintained by the Public Works Department in 1936 was 233 miles. Of this mileage 46 miles or 20 per cent of the total are metalled and asphalted, 10 miles or 4 per cent of the total are metalled, but not asphalted, and the balance of 177 miles or 76 per cent of the total are unmetalled or lightly gravelled. This last figure is a matter of concern, and the very heavy rainfall during the last two months of the year caused many lengths of earth roads to be almost impassable mud. Fortunately they soon dry out again, and except when flood water was too deep for vehicles to get through, the roads were left open to all traffc which usually managed to struggle through the mud. The total expenditure on maintenance of roads was $79,951.50 which represents $343/- per mile. It is hoped that it will be possible to make increased funds available for maintenance soon for the road system including the metalled and asphalted portion is shewing signs of rapid deterioration due to the increase in traffic.

Digitized by Google

The increasing number of new and wider buses and lorries which are now appearing on the roads, and the tendency for traffic to cut away the grass verge make it imperative that the metalled and asphalted roads in this State should be widened from the existing 12 feet to a minimum of 16 feet on the open road, and 18 feet through villages. A start has been made on widening, but the funds available will only allow for very slow progress.

The funds available were only sufficient to re-metal and asphalt short lengths of the worst portions of the roads, and the remaining asphalted surfaces were maintained in fair condition by continuous patching.

There are 215 timber bridges in the State of over 10 feet span, and the majority of them are constructed of timbers which are too small in section. Many of these bridges are relics of the early days when certain roads and bridges were constructed by District Officers, or by the local Penggawas. It is an excellent method of opening out a country rapidly, but before the roads were used by heavy traffic the bridges should have been re-constructed. The cost of maintaining these timber bridges is high, and although there is a limit weight of 3 tons for loaded vehicles the new high speed buses and lorries are rapidly shaking these bridges to pieces.

Special Services. The total expenditure under this heading was $59,164/- out of a total provision of $59,700/-.

Approximately 3 miles of the new earth road from Kampong Berangan towards Pasir Mas were completed, and it is anticipated that this road will reach Pasir Mas during 1937. The replacement of an old and dangerous timber bridge at Pasir Tumboh was put in hand, and the new bridge was opened to traffic at the end of the year. The new bridge has a timber superstructure resting on reinforced concrete piles and is 258 feet in length with a 20 feet roadway. The bridge was constructed departmentally with local Malay labour; and cost $11,972.55.

Other items under this heading were "Extension of Metalled and Treated Road Surface" ($15,000/-) and

Digitized by Google

"Bituminous Treatment of Roads" ($15,000/-) 2½ miles of earth road were metalled and asphalted and 4,400 square yards of town roads were metalled and asphalted from this vote.

Waterworks.

The Kota Bharu Water Supply which had been completed and the supply from which had been turned on from 1st December, 1935, continued to operate satisfactorily, and the number of private supply connections increased from 18 to 221. This number will be increased in 1937, when funds will be provided to extend the reticulation.

The Kota Bharu supply is derived from 3 wells about 30 feet apart, each of a total depth of 39 feet. For the upper 15 feet the wells are 5 feet diameter and below this (24 feet)— 1′ 4″ internal diameter. Three sets of pumping plant, one for each well, are installed. The pumps are Gwynne's Centrifugal 3″ "K" type pumps arranged for a vertical drive. Each pump is at the bottom of the 5 feet diameter well, and is actuated by a 2″ diameter vertical shaft from a 17.5 H.P. Lancashire motor, rated at a speed of 1420 r.p.m. situated above ground level. On test each pump will deliver 250 gallons per minute against a calculated head from all sources of about 90 feet. The water is pumped up to a steel storage tank 24′ x 24′ x 12′ with a capacity of about 40,000 gallons. This tank is erected on a structural steel tower 54 feet above ground level, and a balancing tank 8′ x 8′ is provided below the main tank.

Drainage and Irrigation.

The figures of expenditure were as follows:—

Supervision and Maintenance of Irrigation and Drainage Works.	$14,958.62
New Drainage & Irrigation Works.	$11,956.62
Special Vote: Anti - Malarial Works, Kuala Krai.	$ 584.82
Total	$27,500.06

Digitized by Google

A considerable amount of drainage work will have to be carried out in the Kelantan plain before it will be possible to control the irrigation of minor areas to the extent desirable. The clearing and rectification of rivers was carried out on the same lines as in the previous year. In some areas the peasants themselves assisted in this work, and much credit is due to them and to various Penggawas and Penghulus, who took a very keen interest in the further development of the areas in their charge.

A deviation of Sungei Seligi was done above the Kuang Seligi Dam in the Pasir Puteh District in order to protect the the dam during floods.

The Benchah Ketiar swamp in the Pasir Mas District, covering an area of approximately 1,000 acres, of which only about 700 acres were cultivated with padi, was drained by a new channel, 20 feet wide and 1¼ mile long, making the remaining 300 acres available for padi planting.

The educational work amongst the peasants on the improvement of bunds and supply channels was carried out by the staff on the lines hitherto followed, and assistance was given to the peasants in their smaller irrigation schemes. The extremely conservative padi planter of Kelantan is very slow in accepting new ideas, but in places where an improvement in conditions has been noted they gradually yield and join in the work, and the crops show an improvement in yields in such areas, especially in the Tratak Pulai area and in the Bukit Abal area, where an extension of the present area irrigated was carried out. Work on a new flume, 132 feet long, across Sungei Seligi was commenced.

A concrete dam was built at Benchah Ketiar in the Pasir Mas District, enabling the peasants to keep a sufficient amount of water on the fields until the heavy monsoon rains set in, when the dam is opened to allow a free discharge through the new drainage channel already mentioned.

At Bendang Raja in the Pasir Puteh District a concrete dam was completed for the irrigation of this area.

Digitized by Google

The work on the dykes and the flood relief gate at Jubaker in the Tumpat area was completed. The dykes protect an extensive area of low-lying land against inundation by seawater. A considerable part of this area was made impossible for padi cultivation by a species of crustacean, *Thalissina anomala,* which burrows to a great depth and discharges large quantities of mud as excreta to the surface, forming moulds 2—3 feet high all over the fields. This crustacean needs brackish water to live in. By the prevention of inundation by seawater the greater part of these pests has now been destroyed and new land made available for padi planting. Similar gates and bunds preventing inundation by seawater were erected at Baroh Tengku Panglima and Baroh Goring near Kuala Kemassin.

Aviation.

The clearing of a site for a landing ground at Pengkalan Chepa, about 5 miles north-east of Kota Bharu, was commenced, and an area sufficient for an emergency landing ground was completed by the end of the year. As this site is likely to develop into an Aerodrome to form a link in the chain of landing grounds between Penang and Hong Kong the whole of the available State land, within a radius of 400 yards is being cleared ready for the Director of Civil Aviation's inspection early next year. The ground is sandy, and even during the wet season water does not lie on the surface, and a heavy motor car can be driven across the ground after heavy rain without leaving deep ruts. It is anticipated that with reasonable expenditure on levelling the area, and a small acquisition of land a landing ground suitable for all types of aircraft will be available.

General

The use of Malay labour on roads was continued. Out of a total average labour force of 611 employed during the year all except 6 were Kelantan Malays. The local Malay road labour is in many respects superior to the imported labour employed in other States, and I wish to record my appreciation of the excellent work they carried out during the monsoon, and in making good the section of roads washed out by floods.

Digitized by Google

Most of the Malay contractors were caught by the sudden rise in the price of timber and other building materials, and a few failed to complete their building contracts which were completed departmentally.

The Majority of the local Malay contractors are hampered by lack of capital, and if they could only handle the financial side of contracting more successfully they could, with adequate supervision, carry out large building contracts.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE AND POLICE.

Courts.

The Courts Enactment, 1925, as amended by Enactment No. 1 of 1930, provides for the following courts for the administration of civil and criminal law:—

(a) The High Court comprising the Court of the Judicial Commissioner.
(b) Courts of Magistrates of the 1st Class.
(c) Courts of Magistrates of the 2nd Class.
(d) The Court of the Chief Kathi.
(e) The Court of District Kathis.
(f) The Courts of Penggawas (heads of parishes).

The High Court has jurisdiction over all civil and criminal matters and is a Court of Appeal from the decisions of Magistrates' Courts, civil and criminal.

A First Class Magistrate has criminal jurisdiction to try all offences for which the maximum term of imprisonment provided by law does not exceed three years or which is punishable by fine only, in his civil jurisdiction he has power to determine all suits in which the value of the property does not exceed $500/- but cannot ordinarily deal with suits connected with immovable property.

A Second Class Magistrate has criminal jurisdiction to try all offences for which the maximum term of imprisonment provided by law does not exceed twelve months or which is punishable by fine only; in his civil jurisdiction he has power to determine suits (other than those connected with land) in which the value of the property does not exceed $250.

Digitized by Google

The Courts of the Chief Kathi and of District Kathis have jurisdiction in civil matters of Mohammedan Law and custom. The Court of the Chief Kathi has a certain limited criminal jurisdiction. An appeal lies to His Highness the Sultan.

The Court of a Penggawa has civil and criminal jurisdiction to deal with certain small matters and an appeal lies to the Court of a First Class Magistrate.

There is provision in the Civil Procedure Code for revision of Court decrees by His Higness the Sultan in consultation with the British Adviser. No such provision is made in regard to criminal cases tried by the High Court, but as a matter of practice, His Highness by virtue of his prerogative, with the advice of the British Adviser, examines any cases on petition of appeal, and makes an order thereon. Also, if it seems good to him, he may remit or commute any sentence under the provisions of sections 297 and 298 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

The High Court is presided over by a Judicial Commissioner (a British Officer of the Malayan Civil Service) who also holds the post of Legal Adviser. There are in the State eight First Class and three Second Class Magistrates who hold Court regularly; of these one is a British Officer.

In the High Court 67 criminal cases were heard during the year: these comprised the following:—

Murder	....	2
Culpable Homicide	....	2
Causing Grievous Hurt	....	15

Only one criminal case was pending at the end of the year. 67 civil suits were heard during the year and eleven were pending at the end of the year.

In its appellate jurisdiction the High Court heard

Digitized by Google

34 criminal and 80 civil appeals, and it also heard 24 Miscellaneous Applications and 7 Administration suits. Judging from the results of appeals to the High Court the lower Courts functioned satisfactorily.

There were 9 criminal appeals to His Highness the Sultan (of which 5 were dismissed and 2 were varied as regards sentence) and 13 civil appeals (of which 12 were dismissed and one was pending).

Police.

The strength of the Police Force at the end of the year was 342 all ranks against an approved establishment of 342.

The Force consists of:—

(a) A British Commissioner, one Malay Chief Police Officer, one Malay Assistant Commissioner of Police, one Bandmaster and Quartermaster.
(b) A Malay Chief Inspector (in charge of Kota Bharu and Bachok districts).
(c) Three Malay Inspectors recruited from the ranks; two of them in charge of districts and one on other duties.
(d) Four Probationary Inspectors—two in charge of districts and two in training.
(e) 329 N. C. Os. and men—all Malays.
(f) One Armourer.
(g) One Detective Sergeant, four Detective Corporals and 26 Detectives.
(h) Clerical Staff and one fireman.

There was a plentiful supply of recruits possessed of the necessary physical and educational qualifications. The recruits school with special instructor in charge is very popular and the good effects of refresher courses etc. are noticeable.

Twenty eight men were recruited, eleven dismissed, one deserted, five resigned, one was pensioned and two were granted gratuities. Discipline was good, there being 219 breaches of police orders etc. as against 241 in 1935.

Digitized by Google

Musketry. Six musketry camps were held at Kuala Pa' Amat at which 172 men attended and fired.

Crime. The total number of offences reported to the Police was 3,042 as compared with 2,704 in 1935 and 2,797, in 1934. There were 2,238 cases of arrest and of these convictions were obtained in 1,798 and 88 were pending at the end of the year. 611 of the reports disclosed no criminal offence—civil disputes—and the parties were referred to Court.

The following table shows the main headings of of serious crime for the past five years:—

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1836.
Murder and Homicide	13	9	7	7	4
Gang Robbery & Robbery	14	11	19	6	6
Housebreaking & theft	10	37	58	45	44
Theft over $100/-	72	15	33	13	21
Counterfeit Coin, etc.	—	4	—	—	—
Cattle theft & petty theft	—	—	—	315	157

Hospital statistics of wounds examined, and due apparently to assault, show an interesting steady decline:—

Year	Admissions to Hospital.
1932	928
1933	852
1934	770
1935	492
1936	452

Health. The total number of admissions to Hospital of members of the police force were 182 as against 185 in 1935. The most prevalent diseases were malaria 33, veneral disease 12, fever unclassified 12, lung disease 4, skin 4, and diseases not classified 117. There was no recurrence of fever at Bukit Yong.

Buildings. New temporary Police Station and barracks were opened at Manek Urai on 21st August, 1936, and the semi-permanent Police Station and barracks at Gong Kedak were completed and occupied on 1st October,

Digitized by Google

1936. New kitchens for part of the Padang Garong barracks were nearing completion and new roof for the same barracks was well in hand. Considerable repairs were carried out at many temporary stations. Quarters for Inspectors and a headquarter block with offices, stores etc. are very badly needed.

Prison.

The principal Prison of the State is in Kota Bharu, with three subsidiary prisons at Bachok, Pasir Puteh and Kuala Krai, where only short sentence prisoners are kept. The main Prison consists of six association wards built of brick and concrete, those at Bachok and Kuala Krai are of the same type, whilst the one at Pasir Puteh contains three wards and is built of wood and attaps. A ward consisting of six separate individual cells was erected in the main prison grounds at Kota Bharu and electric light was installed in the prison, warders' barracks and lunatic asylum.

There were 724 prisoners admitted during the year as compared with 616 in 1935. Of these 562 were Malays, 114 Chinese, 12 Siamese, 27 Tamils, 1 Pathan and 8 Sikhs. Inspite of the greater number of admissions, however, the daily average was exactly the same as in 1935, namely 217. 104 of the sentences exceeded 6 months, 213 exceeded 3 months. 107 of the prisoners were recidivists.

Discipline among the staff improved appreciably. There was a reduction from 40 to 15 in the number of sub-warders defaulted. There was an even more marked improvement in the discipline among the prisoners. The numbers punished in the last three years have been:—

1934	....	44
1935	....	68
1936	....	7

A plentiful supply of good food and fairness by the staff have helped to make the prisoners more contented, cheerful and willing. It is hardly necessary to say that they like the extra-mural labour which is treated as a

Digitized by Google

reward for good conduct for all but the very shortest-sentence prisoners. There was one escape: a short-sentence prisoner engaged on extra-mural labour.

Health was good except for an epidemic of mumps (69 cases). Including this there were 330 admissions to hospital as against 257 in 1935. One prisoner died of pneumonia and another of phthisis. There was no disease due to nutritional deficiency.

CHAPTER XIV.

Legislation.

All legislation, including subsidiary legislation is drafted in English and then translated into Malay in the Legal Adviser's Office. This legislation is then published in Malay and English by printed notifications and, by agreement, the Malay is the authoritative version.

Legislation passed during the year was as follows:--

1. Agricultural Department Titles.
2. Labour Code.
3. Christian Marriage.
4. Rubber Regulation (Amendment)
5. Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement)
6. Opium and Chandu (Amendment)
7. Rivers and Drainage (do.)
8. Forest (do.)
9. Treaty of Peace (Covenant of the League of Nations) (Repeal)
10. Public Officers Guarantee Fund (Amendment)
11. Wireless Telegraphy (do.)
12. Rubber Regulation (do.)
13. Irrigation Areas (do.)
14. Administration (do.)
15. Vehicles (do.).
16. Boat Registration (do.)
17. High Commissioner (Incorporation and Title to property.)

Digitized by Google

Besides the above, certain subsidiary legislation was passed dealing with Opium, Rubber, Agricultural Pests, Christian Marriages, Health, Labour, Rivers, Electricity, Wireless, Telegraphy, Vehicles and Appeals.

The Labour Code which contains 205 sections was the longest of the Enactments passed and the Rules thereunder covered ten Notifications.

Legislation in Kelantan prior to 1928 was of primitive nature and is not readily ascertainable. Progress is being made with the provision of Enactments suited to modern conditions and with the consolidation of past legislation.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue is derived mainly from the following sources of taxation:—

(a) Land: Premium on all sales of land varying from $1/- to $25/- an acre for agricultural or mining purposes, and an annual quit rent varying from 40 cents to $2.40 an acre.

(b) Customs Import Duties on a number of commodities. The general principle adopted in fixing customs import duties is to keep the duty at the same rate as in the Federated Malay States in the case of all articles affected by the Ottawa Agreement or by the recent Agreement affecting the imports of textiles. In all other cases a rather complicated customs schedule is being gradualy simplified by discarding duties which are onerous or which bring in very little revenue, and by adopting rates similar to those in use in the Federated Malay States. All duties on tobacco, spirits, petrol, and kerosene, are collected at the same rates as in the Federated Malay States.

Digitized by Google

(c) Export duties on agricultural produce, the most important of which is the export duty on rubber. This duty is collected by means of a cess of 0.7 cent a pound, out of which the cost of the rubber control administration and the contribution to the Rubber Research Institutes also have to be provided.

(d) Export Duty on metals: 5% ad valorem on gold and 60 cents per ton on manganese-ore.

(e) Chandu or specially prepared opium which is retailed under regulations similar to those in force in the Federated Malay States.

(f) Forests: This is likely to be an increasing source of revenue in the future.

(g) Municipal: House and land assessment at rates varying from 5 to 10% of annual valuation.

Sale of electric current for lighting and power.

Sale of water in Kota Bharu only.

Market fees and licences on motor vehicles.

(h) A regular and substantial revenue is also derived from the Posts and Telegraphs Department and from stamp duties, death duties, and licences.

There is no Hut Tax, Poll Tax or Income Tax collected in the State.

The total revenue of the State for 1936 was a record and amounted to $2,759,522/- against an estimate of $2,268,727/- and a revised estimate of $2,646,731/-. The revenue for 1935 was $2,312,979/-. The details of revenue under each main head are as follows:—

Digitized by Google

Head of Revenue.	Estimates, 1936. $	Actual, 1936. $	Actual, 1935. $	Actual, 1934. $	Actual, 1933. $
1. Land Revenue	469,840	543,227	487,055	470,530	462,482
2. Customs, Excise & Marine ..	1,204,400	1,525,844	1,225,845	1,132,667	868,823
3. Licences, etc.	149,828	186,159	168,597	183,147	127,433
4. Fees of Office, etc.	85,275	108,492	93,298	88,340	81,716
5. Posts & Telegraphs	50,200	55,676	46,979	40,103	30,499
6. Municipal	123,494	137,632	172,296	157,369	149,435
7. Revenue on Undertakings of a Commercial Character	67,500	68,502			
8. Interest	41,190	44,442	42,679	36,501	30,227
9. Miscellaneous Receipts ..	12,000	17,597	11,753	66,362	10,521
10. Forests	65,000	71,951	64,477	45,750	40,282
	2,268,727	2,759,522	2,312,979	2,220,769	1,801,418

In 1936 the revenue from Electric Supply and from the new Water Supply Kota Bharu was separated from Municipal revenue and shown under a new heading "Revenue on Undertakings, etc.". The Municipality and District Office, Ulu Kelantan however continued to collect this revenue.

Land revenue exceeded the figure for 1935 by $56,172/-. The increases were fairly well distributed among sub-heads of revenue and were due largely to the rise in price of rubber and copra. The biggest increase was that of $14,328/- in premia on land sales.

Customs, Excise and Marine. The revenue for the year under this head was $1,525,844 as compared with $1,225,845/- for 1935 and a revised estimate of $1,481,287/-.

The details give a good idea of the nature of trade during the year.

	Estimates, 1936. $	Actual, 1936. $	Actual, 1935. $	Actual, 1934. $	Actual, 1933. $
Export Duty—					
Betel-nuts ..	10,000	10,743	9,561	5,981	11,715
Coconuts, Copra, etc.	5,000	15,605	2,719	10,428	12,143
Rubber ..	100,000	145,648	109,778	116,955	46,606

Digitized by Google

	Estimates, 1936.	Actual, 1936.	Actual, 1935.	Actual, 1934.	Actual, 1933.
Export Duty Contd.	$	$	$	$	$
Cattle ..	7,000	3,973	7,180	7,521	6,452
Poultry ..	8,500	2,581	6,356	7,726	7,494
Fish ..	2,500	1,944	1,877	3,501	4,175
Hides and Horns ..	2,000	2,173	2,041	2,769	3,596
Jungle Produce ..	---	---	---	---	3,360
Tin Ore ..	800	3,181	986	615	60
Manganese Ore ..	7,000	8,005	6,407	5,393	---
Miscellaneous Goods ..	1,000	135	656	4,069	18,724
Import Duty—					
Gambier ..	6,000	5,937	5,361	5,072	3,667
Rice ..	8,000	23,425	---	---	---
Kerosene & Benzine ..	179,000	202,039	180,651	134,284	113,243
Matches ..	1,000	72	72	---	3,584
Salt ..	---	---	702	13,000	15,086
Spirits ..	43,000	60,044	42,391	31,377	22,261
Sugar ..	110,000	158,224	111,896	86,120	59,175
Tobacco ..	200,000	272,592	197,167	177,619	155,243
Miscellaneous Goods ..	267,500	337,153	296,770	286,750	195,198
Miscellaneous ..	3,000	4,930	3,258	1,263	2,902
Excise—					
Manufactured liquors	2,000	---	159	3,866	---
Matches ..	11,000	12,720	10,560	13,103	10,920
Sale of Chandu ..	210,000	234,060	210,182	194,951	154,298
Marine—					
Boat Licences ..	13,600	13,536	12,209	13,411	12,551
Light Dues etc. ..	6,500	6,826	6,906	6,893	5,676
	1,204,400	1,525,844	1,225,845	1,132,667	868,823

The large increases under kerosene, tobacco, sugar, rubber and miscellaneous goods were to be expected. The price of sundried copra was about $5.90 in January and fell to $4.65 in April and thereafter rose to $9.50 at the close of the year. The revenue under this head, which is based on a sliding scale of duties, accordingly exceeded the estimate by over $10,000/-.

The considerable drop in revenue from the export of cattle and poultry is to be noted, as well as the very small recovery in the export of fish after the heavy drop in 1935. I am not aware of the reason for any of these drops. As will be seen in the section on agriculture the annual stock census showed a net increase of 2,372 head of cattle during the year.

The revenue from the sale of stamps for the year after allocation is as follows:—

Digitized by Google

	Estimates, 1936.	Actual, 1936.	Actual, 1935.	Actual, 1934.	Actual, 1933.
	$	$	$	$	$
Stamp Revenue ..	34,000	38,022	31,387	29,494	20,995
Stamp Duties (various)	10,500	18,125	11,857	10,543	9,143
Court Fees (Civil) ..	19,000	22,138	18,710	18,753	21,882
-do- (Criminal) .	4,000	3,895	4,094	3,782	4,647

The departmental revenue for the year was:—

	Estimates, 1936.	Actual, 1936.	Actual, 1935.	Actual, 1934.	Actual, 1933.
	$	$	$	$	$
Commission on Money Orders ..	1,600	2,556	1,891	1,136	997
Profit on bearing letters	600	565	596	364	257
Sale of stamps ..	34,000	38,022	31,387	29,494	20,995
Telephone receipts ..	12,500	13,672	12,136	8,049	7,587
Miscellaneous ..	1,500	861	969	1,061	663
	50,200	55,676	46,979	40,103	30,499

Experience has shown the revenue of this Department to be an "indicator" of the measure of general prosperity of a community, particularly the revenue under Sale of Stamps and the growth of Deposits in the Savings Bank. There has been a steady rise since 1933 and the revenue for 1937 is expected to reach $67,100/-, but a part of this latter increase is due to anticipated sales of the new issue of Kelantan Stamps.

Municipal. The revenue exceeded the estimate by $14,138/- and the receipts of 1935 by $14,801/-. Individual figures are as follows:—

	Estimates, 1936.	Actual, 1936.	Actual, 1935.	Actual, 1934.	Actual, 1933.
	$	$	$	$	$
General Assessment ..	34,300	32,082	31,051	33,130	37,449
Markets ..	29,200	33,639	30,825	28,488	27,580
Vehicles ..	29,240	36,485	29,539	22,841	20,036
Cattle & Pig Slaughter Licences ..	8,800	11,095	10,175	11,017	8,688
Licences for Special Trades ..	3,100	3,500	3,141	2,937	3,517
Notices ..	1,440	993	1,286	1,974	2,039
Conservancy ..	9,800	10,019	9,042	9,557	10,305
Miscellaneous ..	6,990	9,195	7,772	6,527	4,998
Commission on collection of Electric & Water revenue ..	624	624	---	---	---
	123,494	137,632	122,831	116,471	114,612

Digitized by Google

With the exception of Notices, there were increases under every head of which the more notable were the 23% increase under Vehicles, 9% increase under Markets, 10% under Cattle and Pig Slaughter Licences and 19% under Miscellaneous.

Revenue on Undertakings, etc.

This is a revenue head opened in 1936. It contains all revenue from commercial undertakings which, at present, are the Kota Bharu Water Supply and the Kota Bharu and Kuala Krai Electric Lighting and Power plants. Revenue from the Kota Bharu Electric Supply was formerly shown under Municipal but the two other undertakings were only opened in 1936.

	Estimates, 1936. $	Actual, 1936. $	Actual, 1935. $	Actual, 1934. $	Actual, 1933. $
Electric Supply—					
Kota Bharu	53,000	53,044	49,465	40,898	34,823
Kuala Krai	5,000	7,333	—	—	—
	58,000	60,377	49,465	40,898	34,823
Water Supply, Kota Bharu					
Charges for water ..	7,000	5,370	—	—	—
House installations ..	2,500	2,755	—	—	—
	9,500	8,125	—	—	—

The water Supply has made a very satisfactory start and the revenue should reach $10,000/- in 1937. The consumption of electricity has shown remarkable expansion and further capital expenditure will probably be necessary before the end of 1938 if this Department is to be kept well ahead of demand.

Interest. The revenue for the year was $44,442 allocated as follows:—

	Estimates, 1936. $	Actual, 1936. $	Actual, 1935. $	Actual, 1934. $	Actual, 1933. $
Interest on Bank Balance ..	2,290	2,824	6,968	8,599	3,240
Interest on Loans and Advances ..	8,600	9,008	8,599	14,539	21,371
Interest on Investments ..	30,300	32,610	27,112	13,363	5,616
	41,190	44,442	42,679	36,501	30,227

Digitized by Google

None of these items call for comment. $83,400 worth of the F. M. S. 3% 1956-66 Debenture issue was purchased and $120,000 paid on account of three calls on $200,000 of the S.S. 3% Loan 1962-72. Interest on Investments should reach $40,000 in 1937.

Forests. Once again the revenue of this department showed an increase and a figure of $71,951 was attained compared with $64,477 in 1935. There is no doubt that the figure can be exceeded in the current year as demand was, and is, considerably ahead of supply.

Surplus and Deficit Table. The position is as shown below:—

	Estimates, 1936	Actual, 1936	Surplus.	Deficit.
	$	$	$	$
Land Revenue ..	469,840	543,227	73,387	
Customs, etc. ..	1,204,400	1,525,844	321,444	
Licences, etc. ..	149,828	186,159	36,331	
Fees of Office, etc. ..	85,275	108,492	23,217	
Posts & Telegraphs ..	50,200	55,676	5,476	
Municipal ..	123,494	137,632	14,138	
Commercial Undertakings ..	67,500	68,502	1,002	
Interest ..	41,190	44,442	3,252	
Miscellaneous Receipts ..	12,000	17,597	5,597	
Forests ..	65,000	71,951	6,951	
	2,268,727	2,759,522	490,795	

The final surplus was therefore $490,795 over the original estimate for the year and $112,791 in excess of the Heads of Departments revised revenue estimate for 1936.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for 1936 was $2,476,533 as compared with an original estimate of $2,251,270 and a revised estimate of $2,510,464.

	Estimates, 1936.	Actual, 1936.	Actual, 1935.	Actual, 1934.	Actual, 1933.
	$	$	$	$	$
Personal Emoluments	844,333	830,978	783,574	723,791	716,377
Other Charges ..	526,922	533,316	488,025	382,273	362,436
Pensions, etc. ..	199,739	163,775	208,634	159,427	166,470
Interest ..	122,056	119,782	122,775	120,255	118,250
Miscellaneous Services	158,683	380,119	165,369	146,361	54,548
Public Works, A. R. ..	141,300	142,521	116,993	101,272	99,754
--do-- S. S. ..	202,237	240,246	98,364	28,076	---
Temporary Allowance	56,000	65,796	60,505	49,336	45,947
	2,251,270	2,476,533	2,044,239	1,710,790	1,563,782

Digitized by Google

Pensions, etc. Under this item there was a considerable fall in expenditure which amounted to $163,775 compared with $208,634 in 1935 and $159,427 in 1934. As pointed out in paragraph 15 of the 1935 Report the expenditure in 1935 was abnormal due to large gratuities to retiring Kelantan officers which absorbed $62,892 as compared with $22,558 in the previous year.

Miscellaneous Services. The very large expenditure under this head which represents an increase of $214,750 on 1935 is principally accounted for by the following additional expenditure:—

(i)	Additional repayments on Loan a/c	$177,900
(ii)	Purchase of Land & Quarters—two in Kota Bharu, one in Kuala Krai	15,655
(iii)	Purchase of two shophouses as a meat and poultry market	1,800
(iv)	Expenses of H.H. the Sultan's visit to Singapore	5,589
(v)	Defalcations made good — $4,374 / 1,500	5,874
(vi)	Cost of administration of Textile Quota and of Statistics Dept.	2,021

and an expenditure of $16,161 on Compensation for Lands and Crops in addition to the $5,000 in the printed Estimates. As in 1935 the policy of acquiring land for recreation grounds, sites for public buildings and schools, for road-widening in towns and as sites for Government officers and subordinates quarters was continued.

Public Works Special Services. Expenditure under this head showed a marked increase for 1936, being $240,246 as compared with $98,364 in 1935 and an estimate of $202,237 for 1936.

During the year provision was made for additional works of which the following are the most important:—

Installations of water supply in the Balai Besar	$ 1,196
Sanitary Installations—Istana Jahar	1,094
Installations of Water Supply -do-	1,184

Digitized by Google

	$	
Latrine accommodation to the association cells, Kota Bharu Gaol	2,400	
Extension to Malay School at Kampong Pek	1,500	
Re-roofing one block of Police Barracks, Kota Bharu	2,000	(part)
Two additional wards, New Hospital	18,500	„
Padang Garong School	20,392	
Pasir Tumboh Bridge	11,973	

The expenditure under Public Works was allocated as follows:—

	1936 $	1935 $	1934 $	1933 $
Public Works, Annually Recurrent—				
Works & Buildings ..	47,611	39,590	25,651	23,234
Roads, Streets & Bridges ..	79,951	77,403	75,621	76,520
Drainage & Irrigation ..	14,959	—	—	—
Public Works, Special Service—				
Works & Buildings ..	160,358	35,409	10,765	—
Roads, Streets & Bridges ..	59,164	56,155	17,311	—
Waterworks & Supplies ..	8,768	6,798	—	—
Drainage & Irrigation ..	11,957	—	—	—

In 1935 and preceding years expenditure on drainage and irrigation was paid out of loan funds.

Balance Sheet.

Public Debt. Turning to the Balance Sheet, the Public Debt at the beginning of 1936 stood at $5,543,022 and was reduced by capital repayments to a sum of $5,336,438 at the close of the year. All drawings for irrigation work previously done from the Colonial Development Fund ceased in 1936 and the amount due on this account stood at $30,754 at the close of the year.

Capital and interest repayments on the various loans were as follows:—

	Capital $	Interest $	Repayment period.
S. S. Loan 1931 4%	125,000	17,750	20 years
S. S. Loan 1934 4%	77,900	1,558	20 „
C. D. F. Loan 4%	3,684	860	10 „
S.S. Consolidated Loan 2%	No repayment before 1940	93,613	not settled
F. M. S. Duff Loan 2%		6,000	

Digitized by Google

Liquid Assets. These consisted at the close of 1936 of cash and bank balances of $183,769 and investments amounting to $1,250,324. During the year the following new investments were made :—

F.M.S. 3% Loan 1956-66	—	$ 83,400
S. S. 3% Loan 1962-72	—	120,000 (3 calls)

The fixed deposit of $2,500 made on behalf of the Majlis Ugama Islam ceased in February, 1936, when the bank overdraft was completely settled. The finances of this body continued to be very satisfactory.

Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund. The amount of the Fund which was set up on 1st January, 1935, was $309,729 which included a profit of $4,995 as a result of appreciation of investments. The value of the investments in the Fund at the close of the year was :—

	Stock. £ s d	Value on 31.12.36 $
India 3½% Stock 1931 or after . .	6,439- 9-11	54,367.71
Jamaica 3½% Stock 1958-68 . .	9,000- 0- 0	82,542.86
Kenya 5% Stock 1948-58 . .	1,528- 6- 8	15,065.00
F.M.S. 3% Stock 1960-70 . .	2,584- 2-11	22,149.82
Jamaica 3% Stock 1956-61 . .	195-14- 9	1,677.75
New Zealand 5% Stock 1956-71 . .	10,791- 7-11	109,147.25
New Zealand 4½% Stock 1948-58 . .	2,640-14- 8	24,445.64
Victoria 5% Stock 1945-75 . .	35- 5- 7	332.64
		309,728.67

In 1936 a sum of $20,000 was remitted to the credit of the Fund.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities. 1936 closed with a local cash and bank balance of $183,769. The Opium Fund amounted to $309,729 and general investments to $1,250,324.

During the year the Treasury pressed for repayment of certain loans which had long been outstanding and as a result the principal of the loan to the late Dato' Kaya Muda was recovered in full and three-fourths of the sum due from the late Dato' Bentara Stia. A small amount of interest also remains to be paid off.

Digitized by Google

Loans to subordinates decreased from $14,090 to $10,926 and all loan repayments were satisfactorily maintained. The total amount due under the heading loans and special loans decreased from $232,086 to $221,024.

Arrangements have been made to increase the rate of repayment in 1937 in respect of the largest loan, that of the Majlis Ugama Islam and in the case of one other large loan, that of Tengku Sri Mara Raja the rate of interes thas been reduced to 4% from 1st October, 1936.

Turning to the liabilities side of the balance sheet there has been a decrease under deposits of $4,756, for which the Land Office Kota Bharu, Post Office Money Orders, and the District Office Pasis Mas are primarily responsible. On the other hand there were large increases of deposits in the Courts, Kota Bharu and under Customs Sundry.

The Public Officers Guarantee Fund was set up by Enactment 20/35 and came partially into effect in 1936. From 1st January, 1937, all staff of the Kelantan Government must join the Fund.

The Rubber fund ceased to exist on September 30th and the balance was transferred to a Malayan Rubber Fund.

The excess of the assets over liabilities amounted to $1,514,078 and the total indebtedness of the State decreased by $494,838 to $3,822,360 which is accounted for by the loan repayments and investments referred to above.

The net results of the year's financial working were the reduction of the public debt by $206,584 (from $5,543,022 to $5,336,458) and the increase of the State's investments by $203,400.

During the year certain improvements in Treasury procedure were adopted; the refund of petty cash advances at the close of the year ceased, revenue classification schedules were introduced, and a P. O. G. Fund was set up. Preperations were made for the introduction in 1937 of a new system for the deposit of keys and for the adjustment of inter-departmental payments by journal voucher entry in the Treasury books.

Digitized by Google

The four Sub-Treasuries worked satisfactorily throughout the year and visits of inspection were made by the Assistant Treasurer at intervals throughout the year. Surprise surveys were made on all Sub-Treasuries by the Treasurer once during the year. Mr. J. A. Harvey, M.C.S. held the appointment of State Treasurer throughout the year.

Che Hassan bin Sulaiman, Malay Officer Class II acted as Assistant Treasurer until his departure on leave on 1st June when he was replaced by Nik Hussin bin Nik Zainal who continued to act during the remainder of the year.

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands, Mines and Forests.

The total revenue collected was $543,406, being over $73,000 more than the Estimates, and $56,000 more than the 1935 collections.

The principal increases were:—

	$
Land Rents (Recurrent)	13,367.64
Issue of Notices, etc	2,599.60
Search, Registration of Dealings	10,265.66
Survey fees	610.40
Premia on Grants and Mining Leases	14,359.99
Miscellaneous	11,810.55

The following are the figures for the past five years showing the percentage which the total land revenue bears to the total revenue of the State:—

Year.	Total revenue of the State.	Total land revenue.	Percentage.
1932	$1,677,984	$504,561	30%
1933	1,801,418	502,778	21%
1934	2,220,769	473,139	21%
1935	2,312,980	487,083	21%
1936	2,751,403	543,406	20%

Digitized by Google

The following return shows land rents and land sales as distinct from all other items of Land Revenue:—

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
	$	$	$	$	$
Land Rents (Annually Recurrent)	327,030	351,239	374,299	377,102	390,470
All other items of land revenue excluding sales	145,254	134,705	80,021	85,675	114,270
	472,284	485,944	454,320	462,777	504,740
Land Sales	32,277	16,835	18,818	24,306	38,666
Total	504,561	502,779	473,138	487,083	543,406

This year has shown a considerable increase in Annually Recurrent Land Rents, but it should again be noted that the inclusion of 'arrears' in these figures reduces the value of comparison year by year. At the end of the year 'arrears' stood at $12,546 and it may be expected, therefore, that if general conditions remain favourable this return in future will tend more and more to indicate the true annual revenue under this head.

Among the districts Ulu Kelantan led the way with an increase of some $13,500, but all districts with the exception of Kota Bharu showed increases. In the latter district there was a decrease of some $4,800 due to reversion of lands to the State and a reduction in the number of conversions of tittle. In the district of Bachok the revenue collection was remarkably good, the insignificant sum of $1.80 being carried over to 1937 as arrears. The increase on premia on grants etc. is due mainly to realienation to former owners of rubber lands which had reverted to the State since January, 1932.

The increase in revenue from Notices follows action to recover arrears and indicates a return to more normal conditions in the Land Offices after the high pressure of work in the earlier years of Rubber Regulation had been overcome, and satisfactory arrangements made to carry on the routine work of Regulation.

Digitized by Google

There was only one item which showed a decrease on 1935 namely "sale of maps and plans" which was down by $227. The total area under rubber (i.e. planted area) was 85,586 acres and the area alienated for this crop in 1936 was 3,661 acres which represented land approved before 1931, but in respect of which fees were not finally settled till 1936 and also land which had since 1932 reverted to the State and was during the year re-alienated to the former owners. The total area of land alienated for the planting of rubber up to the end of the year was 133,133 acres.

The total area under coconuts was approximately 52,500 acres while the area under rice is approximately 140,000 acres. Miscellaneous crops account for an area of approximately 25,000 acres. The area under oil palms remained 700 acres. The total area of the State alienated for agricultural purposes amounted to a total of 456,395 acres.

During the year no important changes in or additions to the legislation affecting Land Offices were passed. It is hoped that the new Land Enactment foreshadowed in previous yours' reports will come into force in 1937.

The cattle census gave a return over 38,000 buffaloes (an increase of some 2,500 on 1935) and over 109,000 cattle in the State. In addition 14,000 sheep and 21,000 goats were recorded.

Information concerning mining is given in Chapter VI. under "Production".

Forests.

The establishment at the end of the year consisted of the State Forest Officer, one Forest Ranger, four Foresters, twelve Forest Guards, three clerks, one Peon and one Boatman. In addition there were five Apprentice Forest Guards permanently employed and paid from Open Vote by arrangement similar to the Federated Malay States Forest Labourer's Scheme.

The total revenue collected amounted to $71,951/- as against the sum of $64,477 for 1935, the main sources of

Digitized by Google

revenue being duty on timber which accounted for $59,204 as against $53,158 in 1935 and jelutong $2,913 which showed an increase of $603 over that of the previous year.

Among miscellaneous activities which should be mentioned were the following:—

(i) Exploration in the Ulu Aring (a tributary of the Lebir), and in the upper Nenggiri basin.

(ii) Bringing the formal declaration of forest reserves a step further.

(iii) Improvement fellings in 140 acres of the Kemahang North Forest "Reserve".

(iv) Destructive criticism of a very primitive saw-mill erected at Kota Bharu.

(v) Assistance in planning what it is hoped will be a successful saw-mill at Tumpat.

The State Forest Officer draws attention to the shrinkage of the outturn of firewood and charcoal. It was not very much more than half the 1935 figures. It is explained, in some measure, by the absence of forest over a large part of the coastal plain and the necessity for land holders to rely for fuel on kampong fruit trees. The firewood sold at Kota Bharu is largely derived from this source though it is not uncommon for it to be mixed with timber from jungle trees surviving on alienated land.

Extraction of timber from the upper parts of all valleys is very difficult owing to the low state of the rivers during the latter part of the year and owing to rapids. Exploration of the rapids in the Lebir will be undertaken in 1937 with a view to blasting channels through them.

Survey.

The general security of a yeoman peasantry depends in no small measure on the certainty with which they can continue to enjoy their rights in the land they cultivate. And one of

Digitized by Google

the first acts of the British Administration in each of the Malay States has been to set about the determination of boundaries, fixing them by survey, and an enquiry into rights in these lands, fixing these by means of some sort of title, backed by legislation following in its broad lines the Torrens system.

This matter is such a fundamental constituent of the welfare of the peasantry that I hope I shall not be accused of unduly lengthening this report by the inclusion of the following interesting history of the Kelantan survey and settlement which has been prepared by the Superintendent of Surveys from the meagre materials available.

In considering the known history of land measurement and survey in this State it will be convenient to separate it into four periods:—

1881—1909.	Under the Siamese regime.
1910—1915.	"Precise" plane table survey of small holdings for the issue of indefeasible titles.
1916—1926.	"Rapid" plane table survey of small holdings for the compilation of rent rolls for collection of rents based on areas.
1926 onwards	Theodolite and chain survey of all lots for issue of indefeasible titles based on a Torrens system of registration of title.

1881—1909. Under the Siamese regime the rule obtained that all land fundamentally belonged to the Ruler. The only form of land revenue collected was a tax on produce (rice, coconuts and durians). Assessment was made by inspection of the standing rice crop and estimating the yield, and by an annual count of trees for the fruit crop. Prior to 1881 no Land Registers were kept. The conditions of tenure varied in different districts and were known only to the Headmen, who disposed of waste lands on behalf of the Ruler. It was the custom for an applicant to apply to the local Headman and obtain from him permission to occupy on payment of a fee. Having paid the fee and taken possession the holder had

Digitized by Google

done all that was considered necessary. No indisputable right was conferred and he could never be certain that his land would not be taken from him and given to another.

In 1881 the Sultan, Mulut Merah, introduced a system of registration of all changes of interest in land conferring rights of ownership of inherited or purchased land on the registering party. Under a Government so primitive as was that of Kelantan at this time it is surprising to find such an advanced conception of a land registration system, but unfortunately no machinery was then introduced by the Government for developing this excellent idea. It was not until 1896, under Sultan Mansor, that a Land Office was inaugurated for keeping the registers and for the issue of title deeds called "grants". Three years later he appointed a Commission to enquire into the tenure of all land alienated by the State with a view to the compulsory issue of grants to all landholders. Although the Government's accepted system of Land Registration was excellent in theory the defects in its execution frustrated any satisfactory result. The grants, supposedly indisputable titles, were issued on insufficient evidence. Survey took the form of imperfect measurements of boundaries by unskilled "Land Measurers", usually from tree to tree as no boundary marks were emplaced. The unit of linear measure was the "depa", or Malay fathom, being the span of a man's body and outstretched arms measured from fingertips to fingertips. About 1891 this variable length was standardized by the adoption of the "pedepa adat" (customary or standard depa) and the standard length was marked on an old cannon standing outside His Highness the Sultan's "Balai". Land Measurers and anyone who so desired were free to come and tests the length of their measuring poles. (This cannon, probably of Dutch origin, is still there and in addition to the "Pededa adat" which actually measures 5 ft. 9¾ ins., it bears an inscription as follows:—

"REMYMEFECIT/AMSTELODAMI--A° 1686") The grants were written in copying ink in Jawi character, register copies being made by a copying press and kept in book form. The copies, faded and rapidly disintegrating, are still kept in the Land Office at Kota Bharu. Those decipherable show that the measurement of boundaries was usually done by two land measurers, assisted by the Imam and local Headman, in the

Digitized by Google

presence of the grantees and the owners of the adjoining lots who subscribed the document by allowing the positions of the joints of their index fingers to be measured and marked on it. A sketch showing very roughly the shape of the lot was drawn on the grant. No area, lot number or bearings appeared but the lengths of the boundaries in depas and the names of owners of adjoining lots were shown. Each sketch having a separate entity and no framework existing to control the measurements of boundaries, it was almost impossible to put the sketches together to form a map.

In 1903/4 the Public Works Department endeavoured to make an accurate survey of Kota Bharu Town but the absence of a trained staff proved an insuperable difficulty. The European Officer-in-charge commenting on this suggested "the formation of a small Survey School to provide for the State a supply of competent land surveyors.....". The suggestion was well received but not adopted.

At the beginning of 1907 the method of assessing the rice tax was changed from estimation of the yield to a rate on the area of the land cultivated. The land was divided into two classes, the yields carefully computed, and rates per penjuru were fixed (a penjuru is 400 square depas). In the same year it is recorded that grants "were left lying in the Land Office because landholders did not wish to pay the very small fees for taking possession of the grant". Difficulty was also encountered in persuading the public to apply to the Land Office for permission to occupy land instead of, as formerly, to the Headman.

It was customary when land was transferred, for a deed recording the transaction to be made in the Land Office and signed by the local Imam and by the parties to the sale. The courts usually accepted such a deed as absolute proof of ownership although there might be clear evidence to the contrary. Land Office officials saw no necessity to verify the rights of persons executing these deeds "the Imam being officially presumed to be incapable, by virtue of his holy office, of testifying to anything which might not be quite true". Unfortunately, cases came to light in which forged deeds had been used to cheat genuine owners of their property. A law was promulgated to overcome this difficulty.

Digitized by Google

In 1908 the issue of the old type of grant was stopped as it was found to be "so unreliable as to be practically useless". The old grants were called in, the land re-measured (in the same imperfect manner), and new grants issued on forms printed in Jawi character the wording of which followed closely a form already in use in Siam. This new grant form contained an abstract of the rules for registration of subsequent dealings, registration having been made compulsory at the beginning of the year. The sketches on the new grants were more pretentious. A north point was shown, areas were given in penjurus and the grantee and adjoining owners subscribed the document by thumbmark. The majority of lots were quadrilateral in shape although many irregular figures occurred, and a very peculiar formula was used to obtain the area. Regardless of the shape of the lot, half the sum of the measured distances of the sides running approximately say, north and south, was multiplied by half the sum of those running approximately east and west; a formula which naturally gave some very curious results.

On 15th July, 1909, the Siamese suzerainty ceased and the State came under the protection of Great Britain; Mr. J. S. Mason being appointed to act as British Adviser to the Kelantan Government. His first Annual Report revealed an increase in produce Taxes from $24,730 in 1905/6 (A. H. 1323) to $102,656 in 1909/10 (A. H. 1327) and he remarked "These figures show that increased knowledge of the country results in increased revenue; the past year's total would have been greatly exceeded had the country been surveyed..... There was no Survey Department and no accurate measurement of State Land has yet been undertaken."

1910—1915. Remedial action quickly followed. On the 11th July, 1910, Mr. R. A. Crawford of the Federated Malay States Survey Department was appointed as Director of Works and Surveys. He was fully occupied for the rest of the year in recruiting and training staff, and collecting materials and information about the country for which no maps existed. The Trigonometrical Branch of the Federated Malay States Survey Department already had a party at work fixing points on and determining the boundary with Siam. Arrangements were made for this Branch to carry out the Primary Triang-

Digitized by Google

ulation of Kelantan. There was also a party of the Federated Malay States Railway surveyors at work. They had made a trial survey for the railway in the valley of the Sungei Lebir as far as its mouth and were continuing exploration over the country to the west of Gunong Tahan and down the valley of the Sungei Galas.

The policy decided by Government was to bring all occupied land on to a fixed rent system and after survey to issue documents of title.

(a) for large areas—"Provisional documents of title good for 999 years but recallable if the State desires it when a comprehensive Land Enactment crystallizes the form of permanent title."

(b) for small holdings—"Kweng Extracts corresponding to Mukim Extracts of the Federated Malay States, and for similar lands brought under the fixed rent system before survey, "Permits" to be issued."

The problem facing the newly formed Survey Department was the survey of 1,250,000 holdings covering an area of 250,000 acres according to an estimate supplied by the Land Office. (These figures were subsequently found to be very much in error but it was on them that the method of survey was framed). It was decided to use the plane-table for small holdings and theodolite and chain for all holdings for which provisional documents of title were to issue.

Although the Federated Malay States trigonometrical surveyors had been able to supply the approximate latitude of Bukit Panau—a primary station which it was decided to adopt as point of origin and for meridian of reference—it was realised that the final primary triangulation data would not be available for a considerable time. As reasonably accurate co-ordinates for the control points were an urgent necessity a base line was measured in 1913 by the Kelantan Survey Department from which was computed the secondary triangulation that had been carried out by Kelantan surveyors in co-operation with the Federated Malay States trigonometrical party. (In 1915 this base line was extended and measured by

Digitized by Google

the Federated Malay States trigonometrical surveyors and used as a control on the primary triangulation of Malaya as far as it had then developed).

With Bukit Panau trigonometrical station as origin a system of 16 chain sheets, 35" by 25", was designed to cover the whole State. These sheets were divided into 64 two chain sheets, 35" by 25", which were subdivided into four plane-table sheets measuring 17½" by 12½"[x]. Owing to the smallness of lots the 16 chain sheets were not actually drawn, the plane-table sheets being also used in office as standard sheets and all theodolite work for provisional title charted on them.

The methods employed for the survey of small holdings, suggested by the Surveyor General, Federated Malay States (Col. H. M. Jackson) and similar in many respects to those adopted for the revenue survey of Lower Egypt, were as follows:-

Theodolite and chain controls.

(a) First class traverses along main roads, rivers, coast line, State or Kweng boundaries cutting the area into circuits of from 50 to 100 square miles.

(b) Second class traverses running between first class traverses at intervals of about one mile and approximately East and West, but not usually exceeding three miles in length. When the distance exceeded three miles a controlling traverse was made about midway in a north and south direction.

(c) Sub-traverses running between the secondary traverses approximately north and south at intervals of about ten chains; thus providing one control point to about every ten acres. These sub-traverses followed lot boundaries as far as possible and stations were usually marks on corners of lots or on boundaries.

The limits of error allowed were 1 in 8,000 for first class traverses and 1 in 4,000 for second class traverses.

Plane-tabling. Boundaries of holdings were fixed by plane-table rays from the control points or from point on line

[x] The plane-table board was 25"x 20"

Digitized by Google

between them. All rays and lot boundaries were chained to the nearest tenth of a link and their lengths recorded in a field book. Fixation by intersection was only allowed when unavoidable and fixation by resection from three known points was forbidden. The position of topographical features was determined on, or in relation to, lot boundaries.

Settlement. Owners wre compelled to plant boundary marks (supplied by the Survey Department) under the supervision of a Settlement Officer. These marks were made of concrete, cylindrical, 6" in diameter an 18" long. Settlement and marking preceded survey. On completion, the plane-table sheets were carefully compared with the field books by the office staff, inked in, lot numbers given, and areas taken out by planimeter and adjusted to the total area of a plane-table sheet (87½ acres). Tracings of these sheets were then sent to the Land Office for re-settlement.

40-chain sheets. The topographical details (excluding heights, shown on the plane-table sheets were reduced by Eidograph and fitted together on a 40-chain to 1-inch sheet equivalent in area to four 16-chain sheets. In this way was formed what is virtually a topographical map of the large coastal plain, and it has proved very useful.

During 1911 the State's boundaries with Siam and Perak were surveyed and fixed by officers of the Federated Malay States Survey Department and a reconnaissance survey was made by a Kelantan surveyor of a disputed section of the boundary with Trengganu. The latter was finally settled and demarcated in 1914.

In 1915 the Kelantan Survey Department's first printed map, on a scale of 8 miles to one inch, was published.

By the end of 1915, 39,727 lots covering 22,742 acres had been surveyed and settled. During this year, after considerable discussion on the future policy of survey and settlement, it was decided that it was more important to get all land on to the fixed rent system than to survey for indefeasible title, and that the survey methods in force were therefore too precise and slow for the immediate needs of the country.

Digitized by Google

1916—1926. In 1916 the Director of Works and Surveys put forward suggestions for a modification of the existing system whereby controls would be reduced to a minimum and the measurement of boundaries abolished, the corners of lots being fixed by measured plane-table rays only. This modified system was considered sufficiently accurate to provide a "picture" of the land for the administrators and to form the basis for land registers and rent rolls. The Director of Works and Surveys was careful to state that unassailable title should not be issued on this survey as it had no replacement value. Settlement was to be carried out pari passu with the survey. These suggestions were adopted.

Ordinary land settlement was undertaken by the plane-tablers but four settlement officers were attached to the Survey Department to decide boundary disputes and to prepare the "Settlement Index" (a register giving the ownership, cultivation, and area of each lot) and the first rent rolls. As the land was surveyed and settled the putative owner was given a settlement slip to be exchanged for a rent receipt after the first rent collection. Completed field sheets were returned to office where they were inked in, lot numbers given, and areas computed and adjusted in the same manner as before. They were then passed, with the duplicates of the settlement slips issued, to the attached Land Office staff for compilation of the Settlement Index and the first rent roll. On the completion of the survey and settlement of a Mukim the Land Office was supplied with a tracing of the completed Mukim map showing all lot boundaries, lot numbers and areas, a settlement index giving ownership of each lot, and a rent roll.

Two important innovations also occurred in 1916. Firstly, the Kweng (or County) was abandoned as the administrative unit in favour of the Mukim (or Parish). The smaller unit accelerated the output of completed registers and rent rolls and consequently the collection of rent. Secondly, the "depa" was standardized at 10 links. This meant the adoption of the decimal system for expressing fractions of an acre (one square depa being equal to 1/1000th of an acre), thus simplifying calculation of areas and rents and substituting a unit of measure familiar to the small landholders for acres, roods, and perches which were always a mystery to them.

Digitized by Google

The Settlement Survey, as it came to be called, was pushed forward so rapidly that the manufacture and planting of permanent marks could not keep pace. Owners were then ordered to clear their boundaries and to mark corners by circular clearings and wooden pickets. These very soon disappeared and consequently much of the value of the work from a survey point of view was lost. Unfortunately also, many "Mukim Extracts", which are really titles, have been issued on this survey.

By the end of 1921 the densely populated northern plain was virtually completed when 317,528 lots covering 339,964 acres had been mapped. (This excludes large holdings surveyed by theodolite and chain).

From 1922 to 1926 efforts were concentrated on the settlement survey of Ulu Kelantan. At the end of 1925 it was estimated that 337,889 lots in the State had been demarcated or surveyed, and settled. The land revenue in that year had increased to $443,173 as compared with $102,656 in 1909/10 (A. H. 1327) derived from produce taxes.

Although at first there was some difficulty in collecting rents it became evident that the small landholders appreciated the change from a fluctuating tax on produce to a fixed rent system. However, one of the greatest obstacles to successful land administration was still the prevalence of verbal transactions in land, the economical peasant seeing no necessity to pay the small fees demanded for registering them at the Land Office.

1926 onwards. On 17th July, 1926, the State Council passed the long awaited Land Enactment placing land tenure on the basis of the Torrens registration system similar in most respects to that adopted in the Federated Malay States. Grants in perpetuity and Leases for a term not exceeding 100 years were authorised for the larger agricultural areas and Town lands while the small holder held by entry in the Mukim Register.

At the request of the Kelantan Government the Assistant Surveyor General, F.M.S. & S.S. (Mr. J. Dewar) made a report in 1926 on the working of the State Survey Department. He

Digitized by Google

agreed with the methods adopted for the survey of holdings for provisional documents of title but drew attention to the danger of considering the Settlement Survey as good enough for titles by entry in the Mukim Register.

He recommended that in future, all surveys for any kind of title should have an adequate replacement value and should be permanently marked; and that, as opportunity offered, those lots located during the Settlement Survey should be properly surveyed by theodolite and chain. His proposals were adopted by the Kelantan Government.

In August, 1926, all the plane-tablers were withdrawn from the field and most of them underwent a course of training in the use of the theodolite. In spite of their deficient education sufficient progress was made to enable them to become "observers" capable of carrying out second class surveys under supervision, although they could by no means be classed as "surveyors".

During 1928 the old, cylindrical, concrete mark was replaced by one measuring 4" in diameter and 24" long, proving lighter in weight and more secure in the ground.

The adoption of a more precise system of survey naturally retarded output, and the lack of a properly trained staff was severely felt. Arrears of survey work began to accumulate.[x] By the end of 1929 they amounted to 309 Town lots, 30,327 acres of small holdings and 71,200 acres of agricultural land, besides subdivisions and mining land. This did not mean that applicants were necessarily kept waiting as most of the land had been occupied under provisional title or permit.

Between 1928 and 1934 the staff was increased by two and sometimes three (1931/2) Assistant Superintendents (Europeans), and in 1930 a fully qualified technical subordinate from the Federated Malay States was seconded for duty as Head Computer.

With continued training the subordinate staff gradually adapted itself to the new system, and it may be taken that by 1930 the survey work in Kelantan did not differ materially in method from that accepted in other countries working on a Torrens system of registration.

---

x Surveys requisitioned by Land Officers.

Digitized by Google

When a requisition for survey was received a suitable number of adjoining plane-tabled lots were included in the instructions to survey. In this way over 20,000 lots of the old Settlement Survey have now been properly surveyed.

New one, two, four and eight chain sheets have been commenced; those on the two and four chain scale conforming to the same size as the original plane-table sheets and all work accurately surveyed is charted on them.

By the end of 1936 about 34,100 lots had been surveyed to the required title standards, leaving about 343,150 lots still to be dealt with.

Schemes are now under consideration for speeding up the survey of small holdings for title by entry in the Mukim Register without seriously interfering with the required standard, but no definite system of survey has yet been decided on.

Electrical.

Government maintains two Power Stations: one at the capital, Kota Bharu, and the other, installed last year, at Kuala Krai—the headquarters of the up river district. The Kota Bharu installation supplies direct current. The demand for current, the increase in which was commented on in last year's report, has continued to increase. There are demands now in Kota Bharu for the whole available supply, and a demand has arisen in neighbouring townships.

As no extension of a direct current installation is desirable, Government is being faced with a very difficult problem of whether to change over to an alternating current.

In Kuala Krai it is alternating current which is produced and this current has already acquired a reputation in Kelantan among the Kelantan shopkeepers as being preferable for instance for working refrigerators (which have suddenly become popular) but the high speed semi-diesel engines which drive the alternators have unfortunately been giving constant trouble.

Digitized by Google

General.

News of the death of His Majesty King George V was received with sincere regret by His Highness the Sultan of Kelantan and all educated members of the community. A short and impressive memorial ceremony was held on January the 28th at the War Memorial in Kota Bharu, attended by the Sultan, the British Adviser, all Government officers and many of the public.

His Highness the Sultan's birthday was celebrated in July with the usual ceremony.

In October he paid a visit to Singapore for a change of air and holiday and was much interested in recent developments in the naval and air bases.

The staffing of the senior posts held by British officers was as follows:—

1. British Adviser to the Government of Kelantan (Capt. A. C. Baker, M.C., M.C.S. throughout the year)

2. Legal Adviser and Judicial Commissioner (Mr. J. D. M. Smith, M.C.S. till 13th August when he was succeeded by Capt. W. A. Gordon-Hall, M.C.S.)

3. Assistant Adviser (Mr. J. S. Macpherson, M.C.S. throughout the year). The duties actually performed by him were those of Superintendent of Lands, Kelantan, and Deputy Controller of Rubber.

4. State Treasurer and District Officer, Kota Bharu (Mr. J. A. Harvey, M.C.S. throughout the year).

5. District Officer Ulu Kelantan, and Controller of Labour (Mr. A. Gilmour, M.C.S. till 12th February when he was succeeded by Mr. J. McP. Brander, M.C.S., the latter being succeeded by Mr. H. G. Hammett, M.C.S. on the 10th of September).

Digitized by Google

6. Chief Medical Officer
(Dr. T. F. Strang througout the year).

7. State Engineer and Irrigation Engineer
(Mr. E. M. O'D. Burke-Gaffney until 15th July when he proceeded on leave, and was relieved by Mr. J. H. West, A.M.I.C.E. to the end of the year).

8. Irrigation Officer
(Mr. Anker Rentse througout the year).

9. Superintendent of Suryeys
(Mr. W. H. E. Neil throughout the year).

10. Assistant Superintendent of Surveys
(Mr. R. Wilson till the 26th December when he was transferred to Malacca. His successor did not arrive until 5th January, 1937.).

11. Commissioner of Police and Superintendent of Gaol
(Mr. D. Hillary throughout the year).

12. Superindendent of Marine & Customs
(Mr. F. G. Aplin throughout the year).

13. State Agricultural Officer
(Mr. H. K. Ashby throughout the year).

14. State Forest Officer
(Mr. E. J. Shrubshall till 7th October when he was succeeded by Mr. J. S. Addison to the end of the year).

15. Secretary to the British Adviser, Kelantan
(Mr. A. C. Boyd, M.C.S. from the 27th January to the end of the year). The duties performed by this Officer were actually those of Auditor, Superintendent of Posts & Telegraphs, and Public Prosecutor.

16. Electrical Engineer
(Mr. F. J. Larard till 21st October when he was succeeded by Mr. H. E. Doel to the end of the year).

Digitized by Google

I must conclude with the Malay formula, asking for pardon for anything I may have said wrong. I sign this report a month after assuming duty in a State in which I have never served before. I might have contented myself with a mere condensation of departmental reports. I have preferred to use the writing of this report as a means of exploring the problems presented by the Government of this State, a procedure fraught with the danger of coming to hasty conclusions. I shall no doubt have in time to modify the interpretations I have put forward of the facts as I have seen them, and many of these "facts" may turn out to be mere half truths.

Sgd. G. A. de C. de Moubray,
M.C.S.
Ag. British Adviser to the Government of Kelantan.

THE RESIDENCY,
Kota Bharu,
KELANTAN, 24th April, 1937

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX A.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO KELANTAN.

(Vide Colonial Office Circular Despatch dated 12-9-32.)
(K, 954/1932.)

(i) KELANTAN (James Maclehose & Sons, Glasgow) by W. A. Graham.

(ii) MALAY POISONS & CHARM CURES (J. & A. Churchill, London) by Dr. J. D. Gimlette,

(iii) KELANTAN MALAY (Government Printing Office, Singapore) by C. C. Brown, M. C. S.

(iv) IN COURT & KAMPONG by Sir Hugh Clifford, G. C. M. G. etc.

(v) Journals of The Malayan Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND

LIABILITIES.

DEPOSITS:—		$ c.	
District Officer, Ulu Kelantan	..	40,907.12	
-do- Pasir Puteh	..	5,594.77	
-do- Pasir Mas	..	6,174.70	
-do- Bachok	..	910.25	
Courts, Kota Bharu	..	29,037.70	
Police Sundry	..	12.00	
Customs Sundry	..	11,917.65	
Land Office, Kota Bharu Sundry	..	20,287.99	
-do- Survey	..	1,861.41	
Post Office Money Order	..	15,860.84	
Pawnbroking Farm	..	9,795.00	
Gold Buyers Licence	..	100.00	
Municipality	..	1,055.55	
Education	..	397.96	143,912.94
FINES & REWARDS FUND:—			
Clerks	..	408.81	
Police	..	96.38	
Prisons	..	61.09	566.28
CONTRIBUTIONS:—			
Public Officers Guarantee Fund	..	1,006.90	
W. & O. Pensions Fund	..	—	1,006.90
ALIENS IMMIGRATION FUND	..	5,471.60	5,471.60
OPIUM REVENUE REPLACEMENT RESERVE FUND	..	309,728.67	309,728.67
MALAYAN RUBBER FUND	..	12,386.37	12,386.37
SUSPENSE ACCOUNT	..	20,166.96	20,166.96
			493,239.72
EXCESS OF ASSETS OVER LIABILITIES	..		1,514,077.96
			2,007,317.68
LOANS:—			
S. S. Consolidated Loan (@ 2%)	..	4,680,684.00	4,680,684.00
F. M. S. Duff Loan (@ 2%)	..	300,000.00	300,000.00
S. S. Loan 1931 (@ 4%)	..	325,000.00	325,000.00
Colonial Development Fund Loan	..	30,753.88	30,753.88

Digitized by Google

B.

LIABILITIES AS ON 31st DECEMBER, 1936.

ASSETS.

		$ c.	$ c.
BALANCES:—			
Cash Sub-Treasury, Ulu Kelantan		30,261.53	
-do- Pasir Puteh		1,370.38	
-do- Pasir Mas		2,600.92	
-do- Bachok		2,226.12	36,458.95
Bank:-State Treasury	(M. B.)	112,560.23	
-do-	(C. B.)	2,480.54	
Sub-Treasury Ulu Kelantan	(M. B.)	7,670.01	
-do- Pasir Puteh	(„)	3,301.28	
-do- Pasir Mas	(„)	13,179.49	
-do- Bachok	(„)	8,119.87	147,311.42
Joint Colonial Fund Deposit		..	
Cash Balance with Crown Agents		..	
ADVANCES RECOVERABLE:—			
Malayan Arts & Crafts		5,000.00	
Petty Cash		5,770.00	
Post Office Postal Order Account		900.02	
P. & T. Stores and Suspense Account		5,000.00	
Principal Agricultural Officer		1,000.00	
P. W. D. Store & Factory Account		15,700.00	
Purchase of Motor Cars		5,792.94	
F. M. S. Government Pensioners		585.65	
Advance to Nik Mustapha		500.00	
S. S. Government Pensioners		21.96	
District Officer, Ulu Kelantan		1,450.00	41,720.57
LOANS:—			
Subordinates		10,925.70	
Dato' Kaya Pati		27,600.00	
Tengku Sri Mara Raja		22,210.99	
Majlis Ugama Islam		137,191.31	
Clubs		1,779.08	199,707.08
SPECIAL LOANS:—			
Tengku Sri Utama Raja		3,403.23	
Administrator to the Estate of the late Sultanah		1,800.00	
Minah binti Haji Yusoff		400.00	
Dato' Perdana Mentri		10,377.94	
Tengku Sri Ismara Raja		3,920.00	
Tengku Zabidah		156.24	
Haji Wan Ahmed		135.00	
Che Hassan bin Sulaiman		750.00	
Nik Mat bin Abdul Kadir		374.99	21,317.40
OPIUM REVENUE REPLACEMENT RESERVE FUND		309,728.67	309,728.67
PUBLIC OFFICERS' GUARANTEE FUND		750.00	750.00
INVESTMENTS:—			
Commonwealth of Australia	3¾% stock 1946-1949	44,571.43	
-do-	3¼% stock 1964-1974	28,077.25	
Conversion Loan	2½% stock 1944-49	130,178.57	
New Zealand	3% stock 1952-55	66,514.28	
India	3% stock 1949-52	70,634.00	
Wembly U. D. C.	3% stock 1951	60,600.00	
Victoria	3% stock 1929-49	2,482.96	
Funding Loan	2½% stock 1956-61	280,150.00	
S'pore Municipal Debenture	4½% stock 1930	255,000.00	
-do-	3% stock 1975-85	63,708.75	
F.M.S. Government	3% Loan 1956-66	84,234.00	
S.S. „ (3 calls)	3% Loan 1962-72	120,000.00	
Union of South Africa	3½% stock 1955-65	39,286.64	
Swansea	5% stock 1945-52	4,885.71	1,250,323.59
			2,007,317.68
Excess of Assets over Liabilities		1,514,077.96	1,514,077.96
BALANCE TO THE DEBIT OF THE STATE		3,822,359.92	3,822,359
			5,336,43

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX C.

Table of Annual Revenue and Expenditure since Kelantan came under British Protection:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
1910	419,327	403,552
1911	487,467	574,850
1912	535,669	665,608
1913	676,020	672,137
1914	762,772	805,965
1915	692,556	807,714
1916	822,860	808,164
1917	910,291	757,946
1918	955,402	899,161
1919	1,141,444	1,065,012
1920	1,328,955	1,403,208
1921	1,160,262	1,678,432
1922	1,310,020	1,539,318
1923	1,396,855	1,271,887
1924	1,422,113	1,422,032
1925	1,804,180	1,401,961
1926	2,371,595	1,927,134
1927	2,448,090	2,949,438 *
1928	2,570,550	2,463,762
1929	2,481,139	2,215,771
1930	2,182,905	2,426,079
1931	1,524,139	1,961,124
1932	1,677,983	1,664,051
1933	1,801,418	1,563,782
1934	2,220,769	1,710,790
1935	2,312,979	2,044,239
1936	2,759,522	2,476,533 †

* Includes a sum of $320,000.00 devoted to reduction of the Public Debt.

† Includes a sum of $206,584.00 devoted to further reduction of the Public Debt.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX D.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF LOCAL PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS FOR FIVE YEARS.

Nos.	Articles	How Counted	1932 Quantity	1932 Value	1933 Quantity	1933 Value	1934 Quantity	1934 Value	1935 Quantity	1935 Value	1936 Quantity	1936 Value
				$		$		$		$		$
1	Rubber	Tons	5,146.02	731,223	9,213.04	1,906,021	11,574.41	4,533,829	9,257.15	3,751,628	10,125.92	5,445,577
2	Copra	-do-	4,012.56	306,658	6,773.98	290,472	5,873.29	185,256	6,127.77	403,527	9,130.27	838,568
3	Betelnuts:-											
	(a) Dried	-do-	1,393.39	167,392	2,266.45	151,582	2,260.63	125,042	2,257.14	182,757	2,164.62	205,274
	(b) Fresh	-do-	..	1,824	..	1,672	..	476	59.52	619	..	..
4	Rice & Padi	-do-	..	1,441	..	4,192	10.09	477	434.11	25,962	10.31	421
5	Timber & Planks	..	..	994	..	746	..	3,436	..	5,513	..	..
6	Cattle	Nos.	312	12,115	3,164	92,765	2,265	68,878	3,068	143,893	1,490	87,327
7	Jungle Produce	..	..	91,830	..	70,048	..	42,635	..	27,135	..	23,931
8	Fish	Tons	754.13	89,249	1,002.7	117,361	794.79	70,806	437.04	46,775	460.08	48,885
9	Poultry	Nos.	24,671	6,215	100,498	24,312	113.09*	20,643	119,366	24,442	46,663	16,006
10	Tin-Ore	Tons	..	..	.47	633	4.23	5,927	7.49	9,865	27.16	33,067
11	Manganese Ore	-do-	..	..	2,866.54	26,716	8,968.92	105,338	10,678.15	132,260	10,005.84	124,571
12	Gold and Gold-Ore	..	..	9,289	..	77,154	..	85,913	..	46,372	..	29,240
13	Textile:-											
	(a) Silk	..	..	9,823	..	10,641	..	6,588	..	5,139	..	3,028
	(b) Cotton	..	..	15,230	..	23,057	..	51,177	..	19,867	..	18,986

* Tons

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX E.

COMPARTIVE STATEMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF IMPORT FOR FIVE YEARS.

Nos.	Articles.	How Counted	1932 Quantity	1932 Value	1933 Quantity	1933 Value	1934 Quantity	1934 Value	1935 Quantity	1935 Value	1936 Quantity	1936 Value
				$		$		$		$		$
1	Fish	Tons	198.74	15,926	111.25	7,857	137.53	9,622	113.74	21,103	491.43	55,498
2	Rice	-do-	3,936.95	228,145	1,821.39	97,247	5,149.64	215,090	1,680.6	101,469	5,355.93	300,451
3	Benzine	Gallons	206,520	158,073	223,343	141,244	269,072	221,532	358,256½	281,945	417,412	333,929
4	Petroleum	-do-	358,354	139,474	283,697	163,456	327,292	163,646	368,400	185,771	393,856	196,929
5	Textile (all kinds)	..	..	462,019	..	979,822	..	2,254,256	..	1,656,628	..	1,690,795
6	Machinery	..	..	23,257	..	25,641	..	37,826	..	48,324	(Nos.)1,019	37,915
7	Motor Vehicles	..	..	31,405	..	30,735	..	56,730	..	157,300	„ 139	141,825
8	Cement	Tons	1,289.	25,890	1,334.	26,767	1,350.	27,140	1,821.29	29,685	3,090.3	43,131
9	Timber & Planks	..	..	23,940	..	20,537	..	18,452	..	3,127	..	5,839
10	Drugs & Medicines	..	..	82,227	..	114,194	..	139,996	..	178,086	..	161,025
11	Bread & Biscuits	..	..	13,499	..	14,647	..	14,855	..	33,440	..	58,909
12	Curry Stuffs	..	..	15,820	..	17,436	..	16,870	..	15,534	(Cwts.)2,391½	19,273
13	Wheat Flour	Tons	655.6	59,620	709.6	64,114	720.04	67,210	847.84	64,488	1,006.93	90,168
14	Tinned Milk	Cases	15,117	148,898	12,422	128,360	16,161	155,694	12,039	95,044	15,201	116,390
15	Sugar	Tons	935.	64,820	910.83	67,124	1,281.55	93,361	1,597.12	125,241	2,349.78	167,019
16	Tobacco (all kinds)	Lbs	..	321,667	..	331,542	..	350,793	218,564.	433,935	270,498.73	539,289

Digitized by CC-0

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps. [Colonial No. 111] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. 0d. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

(45505—48) Wt. 2561—3906 499 11/37 P. St. G. 377/7

S.O. Code No. 58—1814

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1813

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

STATE OF BRUNEI, 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1751 (Price 1s. 6d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1753 (Price 2s. 0d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN SINGAPORE)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent. Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937. [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH, 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1813

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

STATE OF BRUNEI, 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1751 (Price 1s. 6d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1753 (Price 2s. 0d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN SINGAPORE)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent. Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937
Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Sarawak
12-23-37
15206

CONTENTS

ANNUAL REPORT 1936

Chapter		*Pages*
I.	GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY AND CLIMATE	1
II.	GOVERNMENT	2
III.	POPULATION	3
IV.	HEALTH	5
V.	HOUSING	5
VI.	PRODUCTION	8
VII.	COMMERCE	13
VIII.	WAGES AND THE COST OF LIVING	14
IX.	EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS ..	16
X.	COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT	18
XI.	BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ..	20
XII.	PUBLIC WORKS	21
XIII.	JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS	23
XIV.	LEGISLATION	25
XV.	FINANCE AND TAXATION	26
XVI.	MISCELLANEOUS	29

APPENDICES

A.	RAINFALL IN VARIOUS PLACES	32
B.	THERMOMETRICAL OBSERVATIONS IN VARIOUS PLACES	33
C.	TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FOR THE YEARS 1934–1936	34
D.	TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTS FOR THE YEARS 1934, 1935 AND 1936	35
E.	ABSTRACT OF REVENUE 1934, 1935 AND 1936 ..	36
F.	ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURE 1934, 1935 AND 1936	37
G.	CUSTOMS TARIFF	38
H.	STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1936	43
	SKETCH MAP OF BRUNEI	44

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

STATE OF BRUNEI

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1936

CHAPTER I

GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY AND CLIMATE

GEOGRAPHY

The State of Brunei comprises an area of some 2,280 square miles, with a coast line of about 100 miles, and lies between 4° 5′ and 5° 2′ N. latitude and 114° 3′ and 115° 22′ E. longitude. Brunei Town is distant by sea 758 nautical miles from Singapore.

The capital, Brunei, or, to give it its honorific Arabic name, Darul-Salam (Abode of Peace), is situated about nine miles from the mouth of the Brunei River. The population as revealed by the census of 1931 was 10,453. Prior to 1910 it consisted almost entirely of Malay houses built on nibong piles in the river, but it now includes a strip of the mainland, partly reclaimed, on which the Government buildings and many shophouses and private residences have been erected.

The only other town of any size is Kuala Belait at the south-western end of the State's seaboard. It is the centre of a rapidly expanding oil producing area and is the local headquarters of the British Malayan Petroleum Company.

HISTORY

A State named Puni, 45 days' sail from Java, is mentioned several times in the annals of the Sung dynasty, which ruled over Southern China from about 960 to 1280 A.D., and it is practically certain that the reference is to Brunei.

In the 13th and 14th centuries Brunei owed allegiance alternately to Majapahit and Malacca. By the early years of the 16th century, however, it had risen to great power, and in the reign of Sultan BOLKIA, (Nakhoda Ragam, the Singing Captain), its authority extended not only over the northern part of the Island of Borneo but also over the Sulu Islands and part of the Philippines.

The first European account of Brunei is that of PIGAFETTA who sailed with MAGELLAN on his famous voyage around the world and recorded his impressions of the various lands he visited. PIGAFETTA saw Brunei in 1521 and was greatly impressed by the splendour of the Court and the size of the Town, the population of which he estimated at 25,000 families.

Digitized by Google

Towards the end of the 16th century the power of Brunei began to decline and by the middle of the 19th century it had fallen hopelessly into decay, only a small part of its former territory remaining to it. At this period the town of Brunei seems to have been a profitable slave market for the captives of the Illanun and Sulu pirates on the coasts of Borneo. Sarawak was ceded to Sir JAMES BROOKE in 1841 and concessions were made at later dates to the British North Borneo Company and to the Sarawak Government till Brunei was reduced to its present circumscribed boundaries.

By a Treaty made in 1888 Brunei was placed under the protection of Great Britain, and the Sultan agreed that the foreign relations of the State should be conducted by Her Majesty's Government. Provision was also made for the setting up of a Consular Court with jurisdiction over British subjects and British protected persons. In 1906 a supplementary Treaty was entered into whereby the Sultan undertook to accept a British Resident who should be the agent and representative of the British Government, acting under the High Commissioner. This followed the system which had been adopted in the case of the Malay States of the Federation.

CLIMATE

The climate is pleasant and healthy without any marked changes of temperature. During the day the temperature varies between 80° and 90° Fahrenheit but the heat is generally tempered by a light breeze. At night the temperature usually falls below 80°.

The average annual rainfall varies between 100 and 200 inches for different parts of the State.

Meterological returns are given in Appendices *A* and *B*.

CHAPTER II

GOVERNMENT

Brunei is a Sultanate, the present Ruler being His Highness AHMAD TAJUDIN AKHAZUL KHAIRI WADIN IBNI ALMERHUM SULTAN MOHAMED JEMAL-UL-ALAM, who succeeded his father in 1924 at the age of eleven years. During his minority the Duli Pengiran Bendahara and Duli Pengiran Pemancha, the two chief ministers of State, were appointed to act as joint Regents. On 19th September, 1931, His Highness the Sultan ascended the Throne and the Regency terminated.

The chief authority in the State is vested in the Sultan in Council. The Council at present consists of ten members including the British Resident. All legislation must receive the assent of the Council which also decides important questions of policy.

The administration of the Government is in the hands of the British Resident who is invariably an officer of the Malayan Civil Service. By the Treaty of 1906 his advice must be asked and acted upon in all questions other than those affecting the Mohammedan

Digitized by Google

religion. He has his headquarters in Brunei Town and communicates with the High Commissioner through the intermediary of the Secretary to the High Commissioner in Singapore.

The State is divided into five administrative districts, Brunei, Belait, Tutong, Temburong and Muara, to each of which a Malay District Officer is appointed. The District Officer at Kuala Belait, the centre of the oilfields, works under the direction of the Assistant Resident, who is an officer of the Malayan Civil Service.

Penghulus or village headmen were appointed in 1931 in the padi growing districts. They have certain powers as peace officers in the areas for which they are appointed.

Sanitary Boards, composed of official and unofficial members and subject to the control of the British Resident, function in Brunei Town, Kuala Belait and Tutong. Licensing Boards exist in Brunei and Kuala Belait.

CHAPTER III

POPULATION

Vital Statistics

The population of Brunei in 1931 as ascertained by the census taken in that year was 30,135. The estimated population at the end of 1936 was 34,016, distributed by race approximately as follows:—

Europeans	69
Malays	28,960
Eurasians	40
Chinese	4,100
Indians	239
Others	608

One thousand four hundred and fifty-four births were registered during the year, giving a birth-rate of 42·74 per mille, compared with 43·70 per mille in 1935 and 39·61 per mille in 1934.

Registered deaths totalled 1,155, representing a crude death-rate of 33·95 per mille as against 23·78 per mille in 1935 and 37·51 per mille in 1934.

Registration of births and deaths in the populous areas is believed to be practically complete: it is known to be incomplete in the more remote areas, but the extent of the error is uncertain.

The infantile mortality rate was 352 per mille live births as compared with 210 per mille in 1935 and 355 per mille in 1934. The rate in the Brunei area, where registration is complete, was 460 per mille live births.

Migration

There was no organised immigration during the year. As always, however, there was a constant ebb and flow of population between the State and the neighbouring territories of Labuan (Straits

Digitized by Google

Settlements), British North Borneo and Sarawak. The following tables show the trend of migration:—

IMMIGRATION

Race	Sarawak	British North Borneo	Labuan	Total
Europeans	17	10	158	185
Chinese	679	7	1,566	2,252
Malays	620	919	11,926	13,465
Northern Indians	25	..	151	180
Southern Indians	4	..		
Other races	105	1	69	175
Total ..	1,450	937	13,870	16,257

EMIGRATION

Race	Sarawak	British North Borneo	Labuan	Total
Europeans	28	11	162	201
Chinese	616	42	1,593	2,251
Malays	522	921	12,368	13,811
Nothern Indians	21	2	120	145
Southern Indians	2	..		
Other races	78	..	246	324
Total ..	1,267	976	14,489	16,732

Aliens, which term connotes persons other than subjects of His Highness the Sultan and British subjects (not including British protected persons), are required to register on arrival and to notify change of residence and departure from the State. They may be, and in the case of the labouring class generally are, required to furnish a guarantor for the cost of their repatriation to the country from which they have arrived, if that should, for any reason, become necessary.

Little restriction is placed on the free movement of aliens of Malaysian race. Immigrants of other races, however, are required to produce a passport or other document of a similar nature. In the case of British North Borneo and Sarawak, Certificates of Registration and Certificates of Identity, which are granted by these Governments only after a period of residence, are accepted.

There is no legislation regulating the volume of immigration. Immigrants from China, however, are required to enter the State from Singapore, where their number is counted against the quota imposed under the immigration law of the Colony. Immigration from China *viâ* Sandakan (British North Borneo) is no longer permitted. Such immigrants from Singapore must produce their Certificate of Admission to the Colony or their Landing Certificate before they are permitted to enter the State.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER IV

HEALTH

Medical and health administration throughout the State is under the charge of an officer of the Malayan Medical Service with headquarters in Brunei Town. Dr. W. G. EVANS held the appointed throughout the year.

Expenditure on account of the Medical Department amounted to $42,108, while the revenue collected totalled $2,512.

The scattered nature of the population and the inaccessibility of the larger part of the State render public health measures practically impossible except in the main centres of population.

Malaria is relatively rare in the large centres, where anti-malarial measures are taken, but it is fairly common in the outlying districts: even in the latter, however, it is not an immediate problem.

Health throughout the State was generally good, and there was no major epidemic during the year.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—There were seven female officers engaged in maternity and child welfare work during the year, including one fully qualified nurse trained in Singapore.

Five hundred and twenty-nine maternity cases were attended in their homes, compared with 514 in 1935, while 15 were admitted to hospital. Four thousand three hundred and thirty other cases were seen in the clinic, compared with 3,186 in 1935 and 1,624 in 1934.

The average weight of babies born under the care of the department was 6½ lbs.

A very successful baby show was held during the year, over 500 babies participating.

Hospitals.—The State maintains three hospitals, namely, a well equipped hospital of 35 beds at Brunei Town and smaller hospitals at Temburong (Bangar) and Tutong. In addition, a travelling dispensary service covers the whole State.

There is also an excellently equipped hospital maintained by the British Malayan Petroleum Company at Kuala Belait which is made available for Government purposes, the Government contributing a share of the cost.

Two estates employ qualified dressers; one has a small hospital and one a dispensary.

The State services are free to the majority of the natives of the State, and to all indigent persons of whatever race.

CHAPTER V

HOUSING

Housing accommodation in the State falls under two main heads (*a*) houses in townships and (*b*) houses in country districts.

There are only three townships of any size in the State, namely, Brunei, Kuala Belait (including Seria) and Tutong. All three have been declared to be areas to which the provisions of the Sanitary

Digitized by Google

Boards Enactment apply. Strict control over all matters appertaining to housing and sanitation is exercised within each of the areas by a Board, comprising both official and unofficial members, to which, *inter alia,* plans for the erection of buildings and for the execution of structural alterations have to be submitted for prior approval. All houses in Sanitary Board areas are liable to inspection by officers of the Board.

Certain of the by-laws relating to housing and sanitation have also been applied to specified country districts outside the Sanitary Board Areas.

Housing in townships.—Housing in the townships may be divided into four classes:—

(*a*) Houses owned by the Government for the accommodation of its servants;

(*b*) Private residences of superior type;

(*c*) Shophouses; and

(*d*) Native huts and houses.

(*a*) *Government owned Houses.*—The Government now houses many of its servants. Most of the buildings are of wood, and the minimum accommodation is two rooms and a kitchen, with adequate sanitary arrangements. The more senior officers have quarters approximating to European standards.

(*b*) *Private residences.*—These may range from the substantial self-contained dwelling house standing in its own grounds to the much less pretentious wooden building erected on a small plot of land. Houses of this kind are as yet comparatively few, but there is a growing tendency amongst the wealthier Chinese to erect this type of building as a residence in preference to the old shophouse type.

(*c*) *Shophouses.*—These are mostly occupied by Chinese traders. The upper part of the building is used as a habitation by the shopkeeper and his family, while the lower part is used as a shop. The type of building is strictly controlled by the Board and may be deemed satisfactory.

(*d*) *Native huts and houses.*—These are usually built with plank walls and attap-thatched roofs and are situated as a rule on small plots owned by the householders themselves. There is not a great deal wrong inherently with this type of dwelling from a sanitary point of view, save the tendency to over crowding. This is not due to paucity of space or even, as a general rule, to lack of capital; it has been customary for the Malay to have his family and near relations close by him and the habit will not be relinquished easily.

No note on the housing accommodation in the State would be complete without some mention of the unique river kampongs in Brunei Town. Though there is an observable tendency among the younger generation to built their houses on the mainland, the greater part of the Malay population has lived from time immemorial in huts raised on piles built on mud flats in the river. These flats are exposed at low tide but flooded at high tide. The tides effectively dispose of rubbish and other impurities. The huts vary in size from a minimum of one room and a kitchen according to the wealth and standing of their owners.

Digitized by Google

Set in a wide sweep of river, somewhat reminiscent of one of the smaller Italian lakes, this river town is the most distinctive feature of the State. At high tide, under favourable conditions of light, it takes on a quite remarkable beauty. Viewed at close quarters, it is even more remarkably ramshackle, and at low tide, European olfactory organs are liable to take offence.

The houses are grouped in small villages, many being connected by precarious bridges. Children born in these surroundings swim almost as soon as they walk, and the casual visitor is often surprised by the plash-plash of four or five small naked bodies plunging spread eagled into the water at his approach, like frogs into a quiet pool.

The inhabitants use as transport a myriad canoes and protect themselves from the sun with enormous round hats. They obtain their fresh water supply from pipes led out over the edge of the river, and in the mornings, below these pipes, are crowded many canoes, packed with stone jars, and manoeuvred by small boys one after another below the gushing pipes.

At sunset the river becomes a busy thoroughfare, when the inhabitants make their way to and from the land town. Seen from a distance, the more minute of the canoes, with their occupants so hugely hatted as to be entirely concealed, look like nothing so much as enterprising mushrooms.

Housing in country districts.—In the country districts the usual type of dwelling is a one or two roomed hut where the owner of the land lives with his wife and children. The raised wooden hut with attap thatched roof is most common, but kajang walls are also found. Kajang is a species of palm leaf and when the leaves are stitched together a very effective wall is formed. The kajang house is delightfully cool.

Dyak settlers and Dusuns and Muruts in the wilder parts live in long houses. These vary in length according to the number of inhabitants. Each consists of a covered verandah where the bachelors live and a number of rooms occupied by married couples.

Estates, etc.—Certain large employers of labour house their own labourers. The lines are subject to inspection by Government officers and are required to be built and inhabited in accordance with the provisions of the Labour Code.

General.—The space available for building purposes both in townships and in country districts is ample and the types of dwelling house in general use are adequate for the needs of the various classes of the population.

Beyond the areas to which housing and sanitary bylaws have been applied no special action is taken to control housing conditions, nor is any necessary at present.

Building Societies.—There are no Building Societies in the State which is not sufficiently advanced for such institutions. There is, however, a co-operative society operated for the benefit of Government officers from which members may obtain loans for the erection and repair of their houses.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VI

PRODUCTION

MINERALS

Oil.—Oil was first found in 1914, but there was no production on a commercial scale until 1932, when the British Malayan Petroleum Company commenced exporting from Seria, some ten miles north-east of Kuala Belait, the headquarters of the Company. The oil is exported by pipe-line to the refinery at Lutong in Sarawak territory.

Exploration work in the early stages consists of comparatively indiscriminate geological examination followed by core drilling of selected areas. At a later date wells are bored upon sites conjecturally determined after palaeontological examination of "cores" taken from the location by the geologists. Even after these preliminary investigations, however, wells may fail to produce oil after drilling to depths of more than a mile and the expenditure of many thousands of dollars.

When a well is successful, the oil is raised to the surface by means of its attendant gas. Should there be a deficiency of gas in any particular well, the necessary supplies are obtained from a gas-well or from an oil-well which produces with its oil an over-sufficiency of gas. Over the field as a whole gas is present in abundant quantities which obviates the necessity for the use of mechanical pumping machinery at any of the wells. After supplying the wells there is a surplus available for kilns and domestic purposes as well as for export by pipe-line for use at the refinery at Lutong. Finally what cannot be utilized is burnt off in enormous flares like giant bunsen burners.

When a well has been put on production, the oil is straightway pumped through pipes to the refinery in Sarawak. As a result, the most obvious characteristic of the oilfields in Brunei is the apparent absence of oil.

Exploration work continued throughout the year. Eighteen new wells were sunk and brought to production, while two more were sunk and abandoned as no oil indications were observed. Fifty-three wells were producing at the end of the year.

The preliminary work for a sea location took the greater part of the year. Drilling commenced in the latter part of the year and a depth of 4,655 feet had been attained at the end of December. Great expectations are entertained of this well; oil bearing sand was early encountered, but the well is to be a deep one.

Two additional pumping plants were installed to accelerate the flow of oil in the pipe-line to Sarawak in order that the rate of production might be increased. This will, however, not take effect till 1937.

The production of oil and natural gas during the year amounted to 451,621 tons and 940,455,442 cubic feet respectively, as against 447,275 tons and 886,647,891 cubic feet in 1935.

Digitized by Google

The royalties payable on the oil and gas produced during the year, less the proportion consumed in the actual production, amounted to $399,929.

AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Department.—The Secretary to the Resident continued in charge of the Agricultural Department until the arrival in September of a Malay Officer of the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya who assumed control.

At the end of the year there were at work at various centres in the State seven Malay Agricultural Subordinates, all trained at the School of Agriculture at Serdang in the Federated Malay States.

To ensure that the work of the department was being conducted on progressive and systematic lines, the Agricultural Officer, Singapore, at the request of the Government, paid a visit of inspection to the State and tendered advice on agricultural matters generally.

An Agricultural Officer of the Malayan Agricultural Service is to be appointed to the State early in 1937 and will be in direct control of the department.

Agricultural Stations.—The State maintains a central agricultural station at Kilanas for the experimental planting of products new to Brunei, and the exhibition of more effective agricultural methods. The Station is extremely popular with those of the people who are agriculturally minded. In addition, five padi test plots are maintained in various parts of the State.

Rubber.—Roughly 14,300 acres throughout the State are planted with rubber: of this area some 5,000 acres are in the possession of four European Estates.

Regulation, in accordance with the International Agreement, worked smoothly throughout the year. The exportable quota for the year was 1,312 tons which, with a carry over of 48 tons accumulated from previous years, made the total permissible exports 1,360 tons. Actual exports totalled 1,325 tons, valued at $790,703, as against 1,343 tons, valued at $576,159, in 1935.

A Malay officer of the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya was appointed to the State in the latter part of the year and has already done excellent work among the owners of small rubber holdings, particularly in the direction of the improvement of the quality of the rubber-sheet produced, by demonstrations of the correct methods of treatment and of smoking.

Small smoke-houses of simple design to serve as a pattern for small-holders have been erected in many parts of the State.

Sago.—The sago palm is indigenous to the State. The product is used as a substitute for rice and constitutes almost the staple food of the races of the interior.

The production of sago was at one time an important industry but for some years it had been more or less moribund owing to low world prices. A substantial increase in the price of the commodity in 1935 gave a fresh impulse to the industry and enabled it to recover

Digitized by Google

some of its former activity. This recovery was more than maintained during the current year and 5973 pikuls, valued at $13,968, were exported, as against 2603 pikuls, valued at $6,177, in 1935, and 1895 pikuls, valued at $2,506, in 1934.

Rice.—The State does not produce sufficient rice for its own needs and the Government has in recent years devoted much attention to the problem of stimulating production by the inculcation of modern and economic methods in place of ancient and wasteful custom, by the encouragement of planting of fresh areas, particularly of wet padi, and by the introduction of better and higher yielding strains. Success is not to be achieved in a day, however. It has been the custom of the people of the interior to burn fresh areas of jungle every year and scatter seed broadcast thereon to reap later a meagre and precarious crop, and custom is not easily discarded. It is gratifying, therefore, to be able to record that there is evidence that the new methods, as they are demonstrated to be superior, appear to be making headway against the old.

Production for 1936 showed a large increase over the previous year, more than a million gantangs of padi being obtained from some 7,600 planted acres, as compared with 600,000 gantangs from 5000 planted acres in 1935. This is equivalent to approximately 25,000 pikuls of rice and represents about one-third of the total consumption of rice within the State. The increase in production is attributable to an extension of the planted area, particularly of the area under wet padi, and to favourable conditions of planting and harvesting. Kilanas, Sengkurong and Lumapas were the chief padi producing districts.

FORESTS

Forest Department.—The Forest Department is under the charge of an officer of the Malayan Forest Service. The appointment was held by Mr. J. S. SMITH until December when he was relieved by Mr. C. O. FLEMMICH.

At the end of the year the subordinate staff consisted of a Forester and three Forest Guards seconded from the Federated Malay States, and five locally recruited Forest Guards.

The recruitment of locally born subordinates presents considerable difficulty as there is a dearth of suitable candidates with a sufficiently high standard of education and an aptitude and liking for forest work, and it will probably be necessary to rely to a considerable extent on seconded personnel for some time to come.

Reserves.—Two Forest Reserves, Anduki (1950 acres), and Labi Hills (278,000 acres), were finally constituted during the year. Preliminary notification was also made in respect of the reservation of an area of approximately 100,000 acres at Batu Apoi. The statutory enquiry was completed and the reserve will be finally constituted as from the 1st January, 1937.

These three reserves cover between them some 380,000 acres or roughly a quarter of the total area of the State. A considerable proportion of this reserve, however, is remote and may be regarded, in the State's present stage of development, as purely protective.

Digitized by Google

Shifting Cultivation.—The situation with regard to shifting cultivation was particularly satisfactory during the year. The felling of virgin jungle for this purpose is prohibited, and the aim has been to endeavour to confine clearings to areas of secondary growth of age not more than ten years.

Conservation of forest is an entirely new concept to the mind of the untutored rayat of the interior upon whose destructive proclivities in the past no effective check was ever imposed. Custom demanded a new clearing every year for the planting of rice and foodstuffs and mature jungle was almost invariably chosen for the purpose as it is easier to fell than secondary growth. The Forest Department is still young but there are signs that constant propaganda and explanation of the reasons for preserving forests are beginning to have their effect. In 1935 proceedings were taken against 117 persons for forest offences in connexion with the making of clearings for shifting cultivation: in 1936 not a single infringement was reported.

Timber Utilization.—The forests of Brunei represent one of the greatest potential assets of the State. It is a matter for regret, therefore, that the timber industry is in an unsatisfactory condition. Except in certain areas in the Belait District, there was no organised exploitation on systematic and efficient lines and it is difficult to see how the position can be improved so long as local sawyers are content to depend for their supplies on the sporadic and haphazard activities of up-river natives.

From time to time enquiries have been received from European firms as to the possibilities of timber exploitation on a large scale. Little disposition has been evinced so far, however, to provide the immediate capital necessary for the purpose, a circumstance which suggests that Borneo, if no longer the domain of the head hunter, is still the happy hunting ground of the concession seeker.

The prospect of timber cutting on ambitious lines is an attractive one. Experience suggests, however, that the future interests of the State as a potential timber producing country are likely to be best served by the slower but more intensive working practised by skilled Chinese, supported by modest but modern machinery.

The plank industry in Brunei Town was adversely affected by undercutting by a Chinese mill in Limbang (Sarawak). The planks, however, were of poor quality and appeared to have been cut from undersized logs, and by the end of the year the demand had fallen off.

The royalty on the outturn of timber for the year was $4,345 as compared with $3,851 for 1935. On firewood the royalty was $2,742 as compared with $1,858 in 1935.

Jelutong.—The Forest Department has succeeded in raising the standard of local jelutong to a high level, and a satisfactory price was obtained for the product over the year. The outturn was 2,833 piculs, valued at $70,509, as against 2,235 piculs, valued at $45,060 in 1935. Royalty was payable at the *ad valorem* rate of ten per cent.

Financial.—The total revenue collected by the Forest Department was $15,551 as compared with $13,509 for the previous year. Expenditure amounted to $15,796 as against $14,094 in 1935.

Digitized by Google

INDUSTRIES

Such industrial processes as are performed in Brunei relate almost exclusively to the treatment of the raw materials with the production of which the prosperity of the State is so intimately concerned. Apart from the oil and agricultural activities, which are dealt with elsewhere, the only major industry in the State is the preparation of bark extract, or cutch, from mangrove.

This industry is carried on by the Island Trading Company which has been established in Brunei since 1900, six years before direct control of the internal administration of the State was assumed by His Majesty's Government.

The greater part of the bark used in the preparation of the extract now comes from outside the State, being stripped from the mangrove swamps round the coasts of Borneo. The raw bark is crushed and placed in vats to which water is added for leeching purposes. The liquid is then evaporated to dryness in vacuum pans, leaving a solid residue. The finished product is a hard brittle substance not unlike pitch but reddish-brown in colour. Cutch is used in the leather and fishing industries for tanning and for the treatment and dyeing of nets and sails.

The labour employed is almost exclusively indigenous, the factory having since its establishment represented the major source of salaried employment for the inhabitants of the river town.

During the year 1994 tons of cutch, valued at $172,743, were exported, compared with 2,575 tons, valued at $177,910, in 1935.

Apart from this there are only native crafts, the principal of which are the manufacture of silver and brassware and the weaving of silk and cotton sarongs.

The Brunei silversmiths are perhaps the most famous of the Malay Archipelago. They have adapted their ancient art to present day requirements and have succeeded in producing articles which, though modern in design, still retain their native individuality.

Their wares find a ready sale in Malaya and elsewhere. In 1936 silverware to the value of $7,125 was exported as compared with $7,709 in 1935.

The brass-smiths, in addition to making gongs and other brassware, are expert at copying spare parts for motor cars, such as water pumps, pinions and manifolds.

MARINE PRODUCE

Fishing provides a livelihood for a large proportion of the inhabitants of the Brunei and Muara Districts and the prawn fishing industry in particular is an important one. The actual fishing is done almost entirely by Malays but the financing of the industry and the preparation, export and marketing of the dried product are in the hands of Chinese merchants.

Of recent years the industry has been somewhat depressed and its extent diminished owing to the low level of prices ruling in Singapore, where almost the entire catch is exported, and to the

Digitized by Google

consequent reluctance on the part of Chinese merchants to risk the not inconsiderable amount of capital required on a venture showing little prospect of a fair margin of profit. The unsatisfactory position has been aggravated by the poorness of the catches since 1934, as a result of the depredations of a species of jelly fish which has attacked the fishing areas.

Five hundred and seventy-nine pikuls of dried prawns, valued at $19,219, were exported in 1936, compared with 475 pikuls, valued at $15,652, in 1935.

In addition to the dried prawn industry, large supplies of fresh fish are disposed of in the local markets. A protective tariff of ten per cent. *ad valorem* was imposed upon imported fish in the hope of stimulating the local fish curing industry. There was, nevertheless, an increase in the imports of dried fish for the year, which would appear to suggest that the local fishermen are slow to take advantage of the opportunity offered them of cutting out the imported product.

LIVE STOCK

Brunei is not a stock raising country. It is estimated that there are about 3,000 head of buffalo in the State, kept both for draught purposes and for slaughter, and a few hundred head of cattle. There are also several flourishing pig farms run by Chinese.

CHAPTER VII

COMMERCE

The aggregate value of the trade of the State for the year was $6,017,329 as against $5,703,558 in 1935 and $5,142,618 in 1934.

Imports.—The total value of imports during the year amounted to $1,869,994, as against $1,994,059 in 1935 and $1,751,868 in 1934. Fluctuations in the comparative values of certain commodities were recorded, increases in the value of imports of miscellaneous manufactured articles, sugar and provisions being more than offset on the balance by a diminution in the value of imports of machinery, timber and rice.

The principal imports in order of value were as follows:—

	$
Miscellaneous manufactured articles ..	802,210
Rice	172,777
Provisions	123,609
Machinery	109,408
Tobacco	93,773
Petroleum	93,387

Exports.—The total value of exports during the year amounted to $4,147,335, as against $3,709,499 in 1935, and $3,390,750 in 1934. The major increases were in respect of crude oil, plantation rubber, jelutong, natural gas and sago flour, the only commodities to show a marked decrease being cutch and forest produce.

Digitized by Google

The principal exports in order of value were as follows:—

	$
Crude oil	2,975,103
Plantation rubber	790,703
Cutch	172,743

It is noteworthy that the value of the exports of crude oil and plantation rubber represent about 71% and 19% respectively of the total export trade.

Comparative tables of imports and exports are given in Appendices *C* and *D*.

Except in regard to crude oil which is exported by pipe-line straight to the refinery in Sarawak, there is practically no direct foreign trade. All goods are transhipped at Labuan (Straits Settlements) which serves as an entrepôt for the distribution of merchandise.

The import of cotton and rayon piece-goods manufactured in foreign countries is controlled. There is no local textile quotas legislation. Regulation is effected by prohibiting by rule under the Customs Duties Enactment, 1906, the importation of such goods, except from the Colony of the Straits Settlements or a Malay State, an amount representing the State's quota being added to the aggregate Malayan quota.

CHAPTER VIII

WAGES AND THE COST OF LIVING

Labour.—There was no organised immigration during the year. The State is not dependent to any great extent on immigrant labour, the bulk of the labour employed being indigenous.

The chief employers of labour were the Government, the Island Trading Company, the British Malayan Petroleum Company and the European rubber estates in the State which number four with a planted area of about 5,000 acres. The following Table shows the racial distribution of the labour employed during the year, and the nature of its employment:—

Race	Government	Island Trading Company	British Malayan Petroleum Co.	European Estates	Total
	Public Works	Manufacture of Cutch	Oilfields	Tapping, etc. and factory work	
Malays and other Bornean Races ..	242	462	384	596	1,684
Chinese ..	7	..	534	18	559
Indians ..	1	..	103	4	108
Javanese ..	..	..	..	42	42
Eurasian ..	1	..	..	..	1
Total ..	251	462	1,021	660	2,394

Digitized by Google

These figures represent merely the permanent labour forces and do not include the very large volume of casual labour. A large proportion of the indigenous population are peasant proprietors, living on their small holdings, who seek outside employment only as a seasonal occupation.

Conditions of labour in the State are governed by the Labour Code which is similar to that in force in the various administrations in the Malay Peninsula. Every employer is bound by law to provide at least 24 days work in every month for each labourer employed by him and no labourer can be required to work for more than six days in one week or for more than nine hours in any one day.

Visits of inspection to places of employment are made by the Government Medical Officer who acts as Assistant Controller of Labour to ensure the proper observance of the provisions of the Code.

There is no indentured labour and there is no unemployment in the western sense of the term.

Wages.—The standard rates of wages prescribed for Southern Indian labourers remained at 42 cents for an adult male labourer and 32 cents for an adult female labourer for a statutory day's work of nine hours or equivalent task. Southern Indian labour is employed only in the oilfields where the daily rates of pay earned are greatly in excess of the standard.

The prevailing rates of pay for the various categories of unskilled labour at the chief places of employment were as follows:—

Public Works Department ..	40 cents to 69 cents per day.
European Rubber Estates ..	35 cents to 65 cents per day.
Island Trading Company ..	$7 to $15 per month.
British Malayan Petroleum Company:—	
Chinese	40 cents to 55 cents per day plus rations.
Indians	70 cents to 95 cents per day.
Malays	55 cents to 95 cents per day.
Dyaks	45 cents to 60 cents per day.

Skilled labour commanded much higher rates.

Much of the indigenous labour is not entirely dependent upon the wages earned.

Cost of Living.—The staple food of the labourer is rice and an adult male is reckoned normally to consume six gantangs (36 katis or 48 lbs.) a month. The average price of No. 2 Siam rice in the State over the year was 30 cents per gantang as compared with 28 cents in 1935. This represents a cost of about six cents a day for the labourer's staple food.

The labourer's monthly living budget varied with the race of the labourer and the location of the place of employment between $8.50 and $14 per month. Living was dearest on the oilfields and tended to be cheaper in areas where fish and jungle fruits were readily procurable. The indigenous population is able to subsist with the use of remarkably little cash.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER IX

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS

Government Schools

The only schools maintained by the Government are Malay Vernacular Schools of which there were 18 in the State at the close of the year.

By the School Attendance Enactment, 1929, attendance at school is made compulsory in specified districts for every male child between the ages of 7 and 14 who lives within two miles of a school where free education in the child's own language is provided by the Government. The only districts which have so far been specified are the townships of Brunei and Kuala Belait. In effect, therefore, the Enactment applies only to Malay children living in these townships, though, of course, the schools maintained by the Government are not confined to these areas. The great majority are, in fact, outside them.

Malay vernacular education is entirely free. School buildings (as a rule), staff and quarters for staff, equipment and books are all provided by the State. Pupils buy for their own use notebooks, pencils, etc.

The number of boys attending Vernacular Schools at the end of the year was 946 as compared with 849 in 1935 and 866 in 1934. Ten girls also attended the boys' school at Kuala Belait.

The curriculum is based on that of the Malay Vernacular Schools in Malaya and includes Reading and Writing (in the Arabic and Romanised script), Composition, Arithmetic, Geography, History, Hygiene, Drawing and Physical Training, as well as Basketry and Gardening at some schools.

All teaching is in the Malay language and no instruction is given which might tend to distract Malays from their native trades and occupations. The hours of attendance are from 8 A.M. to noon daily except Friday.

Wherever possible small areas of land are set aside for school gardens: of the 18 schools in the State, 12 are so provided. The gardens were inspected during the year by the Malay Officer of the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya and officers of the Agricultural Department and practical advice given. The standard is said to be improving.

Physical exercises and the playing of games are encouraged. Almost all the schools play football, while badminton and hockey have been started in Brunei Town.

There is a troop of Scouts in Brunei Town of which the Superintendent of Education is the Scoutmaster.

There are no scholarships but boys who shew promise may be sent to the English School at Labuan (Straits Settlements) at Government expense, or selected for training as teachers at the

Digitized by Google

Sultan Idris Training College at Tanjong Malim in the Federated Malay States. There were three boys receiving training at the College during the year.

All the schools were medically inspected during the year and instruction in hygiene given by the staff of the Medical and Health Department.

Investigations were carried out with a view to the establishment of small village schools. Two new schools were erected by the Government at Muara and Seria, while two small village schools were built in the Tutong District by the people themselves with some assistance from the Government.

Except in Brunei Town the provision of an organised system of education is rendered difficult by the extremely scattered nature of the population and the lack of easy communication in the rural areas. Teaching in these small communities is therefore necessarily very elementary but, in as much as there is little prospect of early development for the greater part of the State, the standard of education provided is at present adequate for the needs of the people.

Little is done in the way of the provision of education for Malay girls. The difficulty in obtaining suitable women teachers constitutes the chief obstacle, and, until that has been surmounted, there can be little hope of overcoming the prejudice of conservative Mohammedan opinion against the attendance of girls at school.

Religious Instruction.—In addition to vernacular education, religious instruction (Mohammedan) is given in the vernacular schools in Brunei Town on two afternoons a week by a special Religious Teacher who receives an allowance from the Government.

One hundred and fifty boys were attending the classes, which are voluntary, at the end of the year.

Staff.—The staff of the Education Department consisted of a Malay Superintendent of Education and three teachers, all four trained at the Sultan Idris Training College, and 30 locally trained teachers and pupil teachers.

Finance.—A sum of $14,444.85 was spent on Malay vernacular education in 1936 as against $11,860 in 1935. This did not include the cost of sites for schools or of buildings erected during the year.

Private Schools

Chinese Vernacular Education.—There were two Chinese Vernacular Schools in the State, one at Brunei and one at Kuala Belait, maintained by the Chinese communities in these townships for the benefit of their children, both boys and girls. Small grants-in-aid were made by the Government and the schools subjected to periodical inspection.

There were 57 boys and 40 girls on the register of the Brunei school at the close of 1936 and 66 boys and 31 girls at the Belait school. In addition to education in the vernacular, elementary instruction in English is given in the senior classes.

Fees range from $1 to $1.50 per pupil per month but reduction or remission of fees is granted in respect of the children of needy parents. There are no scholarships.

Digitized by Google

English Education.—There is no Government English School in the State but the Government makes an annual contribution to the Government English School at Labuan (Straits Settlements) which is some 40 miles by sea from Brunei Town. Five Government-aided students were receiving education at this School during 1936.

Of the three boys, sons of the late Sultan and the two Chief Ministers of State, who had been sent to the Malay College at Kuala Kangsar for their education at Government expense, Pengiran Muda Tengah, the younger brother of His Highness the Sultan, and Pengiran Anak Alam, son of the Pengiran Bendahara, left. Pengiran Anak Kahar, son of the Pengiran Pemancha, continued his education at the College.

There are two privately maintained English Schools at Kuala Belait, the S. P. G. School and the R. C. School.

The Kuala Belait English School opened in 1931, is maintained by the society for the Propagation of the Gospel. There were 45 boys and 9 girls on the register at the end of 1936, mostly children of employees of the British Malayan Petroleum Company. Education is given in English up to a moderate standard. Both the Government and the British Malayan Petroleum Company made a capitation grant towards the maintenance of the school. It is a condition of the grant that the school shall be non-sectarian and that religious instruction shall be optional.

The fees are Primer $1 per month and Standard I and upward $1.50 per month. No exemption is granted as the school is intended for the children of well-to-do parents. No scholarships are given.

The Roman Catholic English School, opened in 1933, is maintained by the Roman Catholic Mission. There were 26 boys on the register at the end of the year. There were no girls, they having been removed to Labuan.

The fees are $1 per month per pupil and no exemption is allowed. No scholarships are given.

CHAPTER X

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT

Rivers.—The rivers constitute the chief means of communication with the hinterland. They are, from East to West, the Temburong, the Brunei, the Tutong and the Belait.

Ships drawing up to 12 feet can reach Brunei Town, about nine miles up the Brunei River, at almost any state of the tide. There is, however, across the river near its mouth an artificial barrier of rock constructed in olden days as a measure of defence. A narrow oblique channel allows passage to ships but vessels exceeding 200 feet in length can negotiate the awkward turn involved only if fitted with twin screws.

As an experiment a start was made in an endeavour to remove part of the barrier by hand labour, about fifty Malay fishermen being employed as divers. The experiment proved a complete success and by the end of the year, without the aid of any special apparatus or

Digitized by Google

machinery, some 5000 cubic yards of stone had been removed from two sections of the barrier and a channel forty feet wide and seven feet deep cleared, allowing a safe passage for small vessels drawing up to six feet of water even at the lowest state of the tide. Incidentally the stone raised was found to be of superior quality to that available at the local quarry and proceeds of the sale of it to the Public Works Department had up till the end of the year covered the entire cost of the work.

Ships drawing 15 or 16 feet of water can go alongside the wharf at Muara Harbour outside the barrier, where supplies of coal in moderate quantities are available.

There are bars at the mouths of the Tutong and Belait rivers but ships drawing up to eight feet can enter at high water.

Vessels of similar draught can also go up the Temburong river as far as Bangar at suitable states of the tide.

The Straits Steamship Company maintains a weekly-service between Singapore and Labuan (Straits Settlements) as well as regular connecting services by motor vessels between the latter port and Brunei, Kuala Belait and Tutong.

In addition, there exist more or less regular motor launch services between Brunei, the local ports and up river districts.

Roads.—The total length of high-roads in the State is about 74 miles, of which some 3½ miles in the oilfields were upkept by the British Malayan Petroleum Company. The main stretch of road is from Brunei Town to Tutong from which point communication with Kuala Belait is maintained by ferry and the beach, the latter constituting an adequate highway for motor traffic at suitable states of the tide. The condition of the Tutong road was greatly improved and, while there was occasional delay and inconvenience during periods of very heavy rain, the road was kept open to traffic throughout the year, the first in which this has been achieved.

A traffic census taken in December indicates that the volume of motor traffic is steadily increasing. There was a 15 per cent. increase in the number of motor vehicles registered in the Brunei district over the previous year.

A programme of systematic road improvement has been laid down with a view to rendering the existing roads progressively more adequate to the needs of motor vehicular traffic.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES

Posts.—Post Offices are maintained at Brunei, Muara, Kuala Belait, Seria, Tutong and Bangar (Temburong).

The number of postal articles dealt with during the year was 187,548 representing an increase of 20 per cent. over the number dealt with during the previous year. The number of insured articles was 1,465 to the value of $333,387 as compared with 1,092 to the value of $200,701 in 1935.

The value of issued and paid Money Orders increased from $36,734 in 1935 to $42,955 in 1936.

Digitized by Google

A twice weekly mail service was maintained by mail bus between Brunei, Tutong and Kuala Belait by road and beach.

There was a weekly mail to and from Singapore *via* Labuan.

Radio Telegraphs.—The Government maintains four Wireless Stations, at Brunei Town, Belait, Temburong and Labuan (Straits Settlements), the latter to provide a link with the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company's cable station there.

The number of messages handled during the year was 4,297 as compared with 4,145 in 1935.

Telephones.—There is a public telephone service in Brunei Town with extensions to neighbouring estates and a line 36 miles long between Brunei and Kuala Tutong. The British Malayan Petroleum Company maintains an exchange in Kuala Belait which also serves Seria and is connected with Miri in Sarawak.

CHAPTER XI

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Banking.—The only bank in the State is the Post Office Savings Bank which was opened in May, 1935, with branches at Brunei and Kuala Belait.

The number of depositors on the 31st December, 1936, was 218 and the amount standing to their credit $19,558, as compared with 143 depositors and deposits amounting to $10,070 at the end of 1935. The average amount standing to the credit of each depositor was $90, as compared with $70 in 1935.

Cheques on Singapore are issued by the Treasury against cash at a commission of one-eight per cent.

Currency.—The currency is that of the Straits Settlements. The unit is the silver dollar which is divided into 100 cents. The value of the dollar is fixed at present at two shillings and four pence. Subsidiary silver coins are those of value 50 cents, 20 cents, 10 cents and 5 cents. There are also nickel five-cent coins and copper coins of one cent and half cent denominations. Currency notes are issued in different denominations from $1 upwards.

Weights and Measures.—English and native weights are used. The legal standard measures from which all other weights and measures are ascertained are the Imperial yard, the Imperial pound and the Imperial gallon.

The following are the principal local measures and their English equivalents:—

The chupak equal to 1 quart.
The gantang equal to 1 gallon.
The tahil equal to 1 1/3 oz.
The kati (16 tahils) equal to 1 1/3 lbs.
The pikul (100 katis) equal to 133 1/3 lbs.
The koyan (40 pikuls) equal to 5,333 1/3 lbs.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XII

PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department is under the charge of an officer of the Malayan Public Works Service. Mr. R. H. A. JOHNSON took over the appointment from Mr. E. N. DIMMOCK on the 6th January, 1936, and remained in charged for the rest of the year.

The total expenditure of the department for the year was $196,732 as compared with $139,307 for the previous year. Comparative details are shewn in the following table:—

Head of Estimate	Expenditure	
	1935	1936
	$	$
Personal Emoluments	19,230	18,515
Other Charges	2,169	2,174
Public Works Annually Recurrent ..	58,469	57,012
Public Works Extraordinary ..	57,908	118,184
Works for other Departments ..	1,530	847

The amount expended represented 88·7 per cent. of the provision made in the Estimates.

Roads, Streets and Bridges.—Apart from some short lengths of approach road no new roads were constructed during the year. At the close of the year the total mileage of roads and streets in the State amounted to some 74 miles of which about 3½ miles in the oilfields were maintained by the British Malayan Petroleum Company by arrangement with the Government. Good progress was made with the Road Improvement Programme. Sixteen and a half miles of road formation were raised an average height of one foot to give the necessary camber and keep the surface above flood level, and over a thousand yards of double reinforced concrete strips each 2½ feet wide and 5 inches thick were laid over the hills with the worst surfaces. Two major deviations were constructed, shortening the road 400 feet and avoiding portions liable to heavy flooding.

The general condition of the road, though leaving much to be desired at periods of very heavy rain, showed considerable improvement and it was found possible to keep it open to traffic throughout the year in all weathers. Expenditure on road maintenance amounted to $32,704 or $465 a mile.

Wooden culverts and bridges are gradually being replaced with concrete pipes which are made departmentally. Over a thousand feet of these culverts were laid during the year.

One difficulty encountered in the construction and maintenance of roads which will stand up to motor traffic is the dearth of readily accessible supplies of good quality road metal in the State.

Works and Buildings.—Thirty-three new buildings were constructed during the year. The principal works were a new Rest House of unconventional design at Brunei, a Vegetable and Fish

Digitized by Google

Market at Kuala Belait, and two rural type schools at Muara and Seria. Other items included one barrack block, ten semi-detached quarters and five single quarters.

A total of 177 buildings valued at $368,955 were in existence at the end of the year. The cost of maintenance was $7,889 or slightly over four per cent. of the total value. Many of the buildings are of a temporary nature and require heavy expenditure on maintenance. These are gradually being replaced by semi-permanent buildings.

Waterworks.—The waterworks were maintained in an efficient state throughout the year and no shortage of water was experienced. The total quantity of water supplied was 21,500,000 gallons to an estimated population of 1,600 giving an average consumption of 37 gallons per head per diem.

Four hundred feet of eight inch steel concrete lined pipe and 2,500 feet of eight inch concrete pipe were laid, but unfortunately the latter was found to be unsatisfactory and the suppliers have undertaken to replace it free of charge. This has of necessity, however, held up the work till 1937. A 30,000 gallon sheet steel tank was erected on a concrete base and showed no leakage under test. A chlorinator and soda ash treatment plant were on order at the end of the year.

The main waterworks system supplies only the land population of Brunei Town however. Practically the whole of the Malay population of the town lives in huts built on piles on mud flats in the river. The population of these river kampongs, estimated at some 10,000 souls, obtains its fresh water supply from pipes overhanging the edge of the river which lead from two small intakes on the neighbouring hillside. In the mornings and evenings, crowds of boats manned by small boys can be seen jostling one another round the pipes as they await their turn to collect their supplies of fresh water in all manner of receptacles from stone jars and old kerosene tins to empty beer bottles.

From a rough census taken at each point it was estimated that the total quantity of water taken did not exceed 10,000 gallons per day or only about one gallon per head per day.

This, however, represents only the water used for drinking and cooking, as river water is used for bathing and other domestic purposes.

Labour.—All the work of the department, with the exception of the larger building contracts, was carried out by direct labour.

Only local Brunei and Kedayan labourers were employed. Labour was plentiful but inclined to be spasmodic. Work, moreover, was apt to be interrupted by events of local importance. As one overseer put it "Sa'orang kahwin, semua kahwin. Sa'orang mati, semua mati." (One man's marriage is everybody's marriage. One man's funeral is everybody's funeral). They proved themselves willing workers in an emergency, however, and constitute an adequate labour force.

There are no Government coolie lines: the labourers live in their own houses in the villages.

Digitized by Google

ELECTRICITY

The Government maintains in Brunei Town a power plant of installed capacity of 90 kilowatts for the supply of electrical energy for street lighting, for the use of Government quarters and for sale to private consumers.

The total number of units generated during the year was 80,365, an increase of 10,695 units over the figure for 1935. The number of consumers rose from 146 to 160, while the sale of energy increased by over ten per cent. as compared with the previous year.

Power Station operations were generally satisfactory and there was no failure of supply.

CHAPTER XIII

JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS

JUSTICE

The Courts constituted in the State for the administration of civil and criminal law are the Court of the Resident, the Courts of the First and Second Class Magistrates, and the Courts of the Native Magistrates and Kathis. There are three First Class Magistrates, six Second Class Magistrates and one Kathi in the State.

The Court of the Resident exercises original and appellate jurisdiction in all civil and criminal matters and may pass any sentence authorised by law.

The Court of a Magistrate of the First Class has original criminal jurisdiction in the case of offences for which the maximum term of imprisonment provided by law does not exceed seven years or which are punishable by fine only, and original civil jurisdiction in suits involving not more than $1,000. The sentences which may be passed by the court are imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, fine not exceeding $1,000 and whipping not exceeding 12 strokes. The Court has also appellate criminal and civil jurisdiction in respect of cases tried by the inferior courts.

The Court of a Magistrate of the Second Class has criminal jurisdiction in the case of offences for which the maximum term of imprisonment provided by law does not exceed three years, or which are punishable with fine only of a sum not exceeding $100, and civil jurisdiction in suits involving not more than $100. The sentences which may be passed by the Court are imprisonment for a term not exceeding 14 days, and fine not exceeding $50.

The Court of a Kathi deals solely with questions concerning Mohammedan religion, marriage and divorce, and may impose a fine not exceeding $10.

The Supreme Court of the Colony of the Straits Settlements has original jurisdiction within the State in the case of offences punishable with death, and appeals lie to it from the Court of the Resident in certain civil and criminal matters.

Digitized by Google

Procedure in the Courts is regulated by the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code and Civil Procedure Code in force in the Colony of the Straits Settlements, these Ordinances having been applied to the State, *mutatis mutandis*, by the Courts Enactment. The former includes provisions for the granting of time for the payment of fines, the release on probation of offenders and the special treatment of youthful offenders.

The following table shows the number of cases instituted and disposed of in the various Courts.

District	Resident's Court		First Class Magistrate's Court		Second Class Magistrate's Court		Total
	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	
Brunei ..	..	..	89	31	86	184	322
Belait ..	..	..	189	38	12	142	381
Tutong ..	..	..	..	..	8	9	9
Temburong ..	..	..	1	4	7	14	26
Muara ..	..	..	..	..	4	3	7
Total ..	..	..	229	73	99	344	745

Of the 328 criminal cases, 48 resulted in acquittals and 19 were withdrawn. The total amount involved in civil suits was $16,732. There was only one administration suit, involving $2,136.

There were five civil appeals to the Resident's Court: in three cases the Magistrate's decision was reversed.

Police

The Police Force of the State is under the charge of the Chief Police Officer, who is a Chief Inspector seconded from the Straits Settlements Police. Chief Inspector T. E. Murphy was in charge throughout the year.

The strength of the force at the end of the year was 16 non-commissioned officers and 68 constables. Discipline and health were good.

There was no serious crime during the year. Sixty-nine seizable offences were reported, as against 81 in 1935. Non-seizable offences reported during the year were 389 as against 510 in the previous year.

The following is a comparative statement of all offences reported to the police during the last three years.

Year	Offences	Property lost	Property recovered
		$	$
1934	463	1,454	376
1935	591	1,136	371
1936	458	1,863	405

Three hundred and seventy-three reports received were classified as "no offence disclosed".

Digitized by Google

Fire Brigades.—Adequate fire fighting facilities operated by the Police exist at Brunei and Kuala Belait. The Belait Fire Brigade was called out on three occasions during the year, to deal with a bush fire near the bazaar and two minor fires in dwelling houses. No appreciable damage was incurred. The Brunei Fire Brigade was not called out during the year.

PRISONS

Eleven prisoners were committed to Brunei Prison and 14 to Kuala Belait Prison during the year, compared with a total of 30 in 1935. All were adults, 23 males and 2 females, the nationalities being as follows:—

Chinese	*Malays*	*Kedayans*	*Indians*	*Dayaks*
11	7	4	2	1

At the end of the year there remained four prisoners in the Brunei Prison and one in Belait.

The health of the prisoners was fair, ten receiving medical treatment as outpatients, while five were admitted to hospital. Discipline was good.

Prisoners were employed mainly on public work, but they also made articles of rattan for sale. The average number of prisoners at work daily was 5·8.

Visiting Justices inspected the prisons each month: there were no complaints.

The supply of rice is obtained direct from Singapore, all other articles of food being purchased in the local market.

Two youthful offenders were maintained at the Reformatory in Singapore.

CHAPTER XIV

LEGISLATION

The main body of the law consists of the Enactments which have been passed from time to time within the State and certain Ordinances and Enactments of the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States which have been applied to Brunei by the Courts Enactment, 1908.

The external legislation which has been applied to the State comprises the Penal Code, the Law of Evidence, the Criminal Procedure Code and the Civil Procedure Code in force for the time being in the Colony, and the Law of Specific Relief and the Law of Contracts in force for the time being in the Federated Malay States.

The language of all legislation is English.

The following Enactments were passed by His Highness the Sultan in Council during the year:—

(1) *The Maintenance Order (Facilities for Enforcement) Enactment.*—This Enactment provides for the enforcement in Brunei of maintenance orders made by the competent courts in England and Northern Ireland and *vice versâ*.

Digitized by Google

(2) *The Public Officers' Guarantee Fund Enactment, 1936.*—This Enactment provides for the establishment of a Public Officers' Guarantee Fund to replace the previously existing system of guarantee by deposit of security or outside insurance.

(3) *The Probates (Resealing) Enactment, 1936.*—This Enactment provides for the recognition and resealing in Brunei of probates and letters of administration granted by competent Courts in the United Kingdom or the Dominions of His Britannic Majesty or by British Courts in foreign countries.

(4) *The Rubber Regulation Enactment, 1936.*—This Enactment repeals the Rubber Regulation Enactment, 1934, and the Rubber Regulation (Amendment) Enactment, 1935, which had been found to contain a number of defects. The Enactment brings the law into line with the practice of Rubber Regulation.

(5) *The Treaty of Peace (Covenant of the League of Nations) (Repeal) Enactment, 1936.*—The Enactment repeals the Treaty of Peace (Covenant of the League of Nations) Enactment, 1935, reason for which no longer existed on the abolition of the financial sanctions against Italy.

(6) *The Deleterious Drugs Enactment, 1936.*—The Enactment gives effect to the International Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, signed at Geneva on the 13th July, 1931.

In addition, rules were promulgated under various Enactments, the more important being—

(*a*) General Rules and Revised Import and Export Tariffs, made under the Customs Duties Enactment, 1906, and

(*b*) Rules for the Registration of Consumers of Chandu made under the Opium and Chandu Enactment, 1932.

CHAPTER XV

FINANCE AND TAXATION

Revenue and Expenditure.—The total revenue of the State amounted to $928,689 which was $71,459 more than the original estimate of $857,230. Receipts thus reached a new high level mark and reflected the measure of the increased prosperity prevalent throughout the State.

Expenditure was estimated at $815,061 and actually totalled $779,521, which amount included a payment of $133,000 in settlement of the outstanding balance due on the Federated Malay States loan.

The year's working therefore resulted in a surplus of $149,168.

Digitized by Google

The following are the figures of Revenue and Expenditure for the five years 1932–6.

Year	*Revenue*	*Expenditure*
	$	$
1932	362,403	334,329
1933	580,756	514,812
1934	645,021	545,021
1935	813,532	786,201
1936	928,689	779,521

Detailed abstracts of revenue and expenditure for the years 1934 to 1936 are given in Appendices *E* and *F*.

The main sources of the revenue of the State are briefly described in the following paragraphs.

Land.—Premium varying between 50 cents and $4 an acre is charged on the alienation of land for agricultural purposes and the land is also subject to an annual quit rent of from 40 cents to $2.50 an acre. Revenue under this head amounted to $28,323 for the year.

Land leased for oil-mining is subject to rent on a sliding scale over a period of years and to royalties on the amount of oil and natural gas produced. Oil-mining rents and royalties to the amount of $489,135 were received during the year.

Forests.—Royalty is charged on forest produce removed from State or alienated land. The bulk of the forest revenue of $15,551 was accounted for by royalties on timber, firewood and jelutong rubber (used in the manufacture of chewing gum).

Customs.—The Import and Export Tariffs were revised in September, the revision being generally in the direction of the removal or reduction as far as possible of duties on the necessaries of life, concomitantly with the imposition or enhancement of duties on luxuries.

A copy of the Customs Tariff in force on the 31st December, 1936, is annexed as Appendix *G*.

The total amount collected was $230,970 of which $207,707 was in respect of Import Duties and $23,263 in respect of Export Duties. The main items were—

IMPORT DUTIES

	$
Tobacco	77,425
Liquors	19,884
Iron and Ironware	19,012
Sugar	17,685
Petroleum	15,029

EXPORT DUTIES

	$
Plantation Rubber	18,737
Dried Prawns	1,749

Monopolies.—Chandu or prepared opium is purchased from the Government of the Straits Settlements for sale to registered smokers.

Digitized by Google

The revenue amounted to $45,283 as against $53,532 in 1935. The Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund which is designed to take the place of this diminishing source of revenue amounted at the end of the year to $129,236.

Licences and Excise.—Revenue under this head amounted to $30,562 for the year, the principal items being—

	$
Licences for motor vehicles and drivers ..	5,533
Licences under the Rubber Dealers' Enactment	3,479
Hawkers' Licences	2,211.
Excise duty on locally distilled spirit ..	5,023
Wharf dues	2,511

Municipal.—Houses and buildings situated within Sanitary Board areas are subject to an annual assessment rate calculated on the annual value of the property. In Brunei Town the rate was 2 per cent. of the annual value in respect of buildings used as dwelling houses and 5 per cent. of the annual value in respect of buildings used for business purposes. The rates at Kuala Belait were 3 per cent. and 6 per cent. respectively. Of the total Municipal Revenue of $18,295, house assessment accounted for $4,879, slaughter licences for $3,501, water supply charges for $3,117, conservancy fees for $3,019 and market fees for $2,700.

Posts and Telegraphs.—The revenue of the Posts and Telegraphs Department is derived from the sale of stamps, commission on the sale of Money Orders, Postal Orders, etc. and charges for telegrams. The total revenue of the Department amounted to $13,283 of which $8,816 represented receipts from sale of stamps and $3,196 charges for telegrams.

Electrical Department.—The supply of electricity in Brunei Town is undertaken by the Government. Receipts on account of the sale of electricity amounted to $11,110 out of the total revenue of the Department of $12,616.

Poll Tax.—The anachronistic Poll Tax of 50 cents per head, formerly levied on all non-Malay male natives of the country between the ages of 16 and 70 years who were not registered owners of land, was abolished with effect from the 1st January, 1936. The insignificant amount shewn in the revenue statement represents arrears from previous years paid during 1936.

There was no Hut Tax or Income Tax.

Public Debt.—The Public Debt, entirely represented by the balance owing on a loan made to the State by the Government of the Federated Malay States, which from $378,200 in 1934 had been reduced to $133,000 by the end of 1935, was completely extinquished in January, 1936, by the settlement of the whole of the outstanding balance.

Assets and Liabilities.—The surplus of assets over liabilities amounted on the 31st December to $541,254 as against $392,086 at the end of 1935.

A detailed statement of the account as on the 31st December, 1936, is given in Appendix *H*.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XVI

MISCELLANEOUS

Race, Language and Religion

Race.—Quite apart from the diversity of alien peoples inhabiting the State, the indigenous population itself presents a peculiar heterogeneity of race. Bruneis, Kedayans, Tutongs, Belaits, Dusuns, Muruts and Dayaks are all represented. The first two are found principally in the Brunei, Muara, and Temburong Districts and to a lesser extent in Tutong District which is the particular province of the Tutongs. The Belaits inhabit the area along the banks of the Belait River in the upper reaches of which, as well as of the Tutong River, the Dusuns lead a hand to mouth existence controlled by omens. The Muruts are confined to the hinterland of the Temburong District while small colonies of Dayak settlers are scattered over the more remote areas.

The Bruneis are predominantly fishermen and the Kedayans, whom tradition credits with a Javanese origin, agriculturists, as are also the Tutongs and the Belaits, though in a lesser degree. The Muruts, Dusuns, and Dayaks practise shifting cultivation only.

Language.—The language of the Bruneis and Kedayans is Malay, of a distinct form for each, which in turn differs somewhat from the Malay spoken generally in Malaya.

The other indigenous races, the Tutongs, Belaits, Muruts, Dusuns and Dayaks, have languages of their own. For them, as for the alien races, Malay serves as the *lingua franca.*

Religion.—The religion of the Bruneis and Kedayans is Mohammedanism. The Tutongs and Belaits also profess that creed but it is merely a thin veneer and they are essentially not far removed from paganism. Indeed there still remains at Kuala Balai a long house, the natural habitat of the Belaits, in the rafters of which are kept about a hundred preserved heads which are brought forth and laved ceremonially on high days and holidays.

The other indigenous races, the Muruts, Dusuns, and Dayaks, are pagan animists.

Land

All land not held under title or by concession is designated State Land and may be disposed of by the Resident on behalf of the Ruler in accordance with the provisions of the Land Code.

Land alienated under the Land Code is held either in perpetuity or for a number of years by entry in the Land Office Register and the document of title issued to the land-holder is an extract from this Register endorsed with a plan. The title covers surface rights only and is subject to certain reservations in favour of the Government, such as the right to all minerals and the power to resume the land for public purposes on payment of compensation.

Mineral rights are conferred under the Mining Enactment, the Resident being empowered to issue on behalf of the Ruler licences to

Digitized by Google

prospect for minerals such as coal and oil, and to grant mining leases to work such products, subject in the latter case to the sanction of the High Commissioner when the area exceeds five square miles.

The area of land alienated for agriculture, building, etc. purposes was at the end of the year roughly 90,000 acres, including an area estimated to contain about 60,000 acres (of which only 1,253 acres are actively occupied), held under an old concession. There were some 4,200 small-holdings.

In addition, approximately 81,000 acres, over-lapping in slight part the area alienated for agriculture, building, etc., were held under oil-mining leases by the British Malayan Petroleum Company. This Company also held an oil-prospecting licence over 150 square miles of the State's territory.

Land tenure is governed by the provisions of the Land Code and no transaction, *e.g.* transfer of land, or mortgage, is effective until it has been registered in the Land Office.

Surveys

Alienated land is surveyed by prismatic compass and, more infrequently, with plane table, and boundary marks of stone are emplanted. The accuracy of such surveys is open to question. This, however, is unavoidable pending the establishment of a properly equipped Survey Department.

The trigonometrical survey of the whole State and the topographical survey of its more important areas were completed during the year by officers of the Federated Malay States Surveys and the resultant maps are in course of preparation.

Agreement was reached with the Government of Sarawak regarding the delimitation of the western boundary of the State. The demarcation of the boundary so delimited is being undertaken by the Sarawak Surveys.

Events of the Year

Early in the year the people of Brunei, in common with all other peoples of the Empire, mourned the death of their revered monarch, His Majesty KING GEORGE V. They were again saddened in December by the unexpected abdication of His Majesty KING EDWARD VIII.

His Highness the Sultan, who enjoyed good health throughout the year, visited Malaya with Her Highness the TENGKU AMPUAN in September.

Among important visitors during the year were the Right Reverend the Bishop of Labuan and Sarawak, His Majesty's Trade Commissioner at Singapore, and the Inspector-General of Police, Straits Settlements.

Mr. E. E. F. PRETTY, M.C.S., at one time British Resident in the State, and now Secretary to the High Commissioner in Singapore, paid a most welcome visit to Brunei in June.

Digitized by Google

Mr. R. E. TURNBULL, M.C.S., officiated as British Resident throughout the year: Mr. D. A. SOMERVILLE, M.C.S., served as Assistant Resident, Kuala Belait until 16th March, 1936, when he was relieved by Mr. H. R. HUGHES-HALLETT, M.C.S.

GENERAL

There was one death from the attack of a crocodile, a Chinese sustaining injuries to which he subsequently succumbed. This was the first fatality since 1934, which is surprising in view of the number of these reptiles in the rivers. The Belaits and Dusuns firmly believe in and themselves observe a non-aggression pact between mankind and the crocodile, for which reason they strongly deprecate any shooting of them. Inevitably it was said that a Chinese had been shooting crocodiles shortly before this incident.

An unsolved ethnological problem was presented during the year by the discovery of the human remains of about four persons completely enclosed in an artificial cavity in the living trunk of a tree. The tree, which was about four feet in diameter, had fallen in the ordinary course of nature when the discovery was made by a sawyer. The age of the bones was estimated at about fifty years and an examination of the tree suggested that, not less than fifty nor more than one hundred years ago, a panel six feet in length had been removed from the side of the tree and the heart hollowed out to contain the bones, the panel being then replaced to be completely regrafted on to the tree again.

The year which has passed was characterised by peace and comparative plenty. The rise in the price of rubber and other local products rendered the peasant classes generally more prosperous. There was no unemployment, no serious epidemic of sickness or disease, and none but insignificant crime. Meanwhile the oil revenues are enabling the State to reduce to a minimum the burden of present taxation and to build a sound foundation for its future finances.

Many gentlemen of the unofficial community assisted the Government in its work during the course of the year and this opportunity is taken of thanking them for their services.

J. GRAHAM BLACK,
British Resident, Brunei.

BRUNEI, 26*th April*, 1937.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX *A*

ABSTRACT OF RAINFALL OBSERVATIONS AT THE EIGHT STATIONS OF THE STATE DURING THE YEAR 1936

Month	BRUNEI DISTRICT				TEMBURONG DISTRICT			BELAIT DISTRICT
	Government Hospital Brunei Town	Subok	Gadong	Kumbang Pasang	Labu	Biang	Batu Apoi	Kuala Belait (The British Malayan Petroleum Co.)
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
January	8·42	7·85	8·18	12·15	23·50	19·7	17·8	16·22
February	4·06	4·94	3·47	1·59	3·37	1·8	2·7	2·43
March	5·01	6·47	5·75	3·56	17·55	11·3	15·7	10·28
April	12·85	16·94	8·49	12·17	14·99	24·6	34·7	5·71
May	17·42	15·21	15·42	21·88	20·64	31·4	29·4	12·98
June	4·77	4·61	4·29	5·59	13·61	7·6	7·1	2·55
July	16·62	13·79	11·93	14·18	11·53	17·5	11·0	5·57
August	6·58	3·70	5·77	7·24	5·22	4·2	5·7	2·22
September	12·30	11·68	11·56	11·38	12·43	14·9	21·1	7·91
October	17·87	18·28	16·77	21·10	30·98	27·4	13·8	16·33
November	13·29	7·40	8·30	14·12	13·92	18·1	13·3	4·70
December	11·61	14·26	12·95	13·70	16·79	19·8	16·3	12·90
Total ..	130·80	125·13	112·88	138·66	184·53	198·3	188·6	99·80

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX *B*

Abstract of Thermometrical Observations at Government Hospitals, Brunei Town, Tutong and Temburong during 1936

Thermometer Mean (In Shade)

Month	Brunei			Tutong			Temburong		
	Maximum	Minimum	Range	Maximum	Minimum	Range	Maximum	Minimum	Range
January	84·39 °F	75·61 °F	8·78 °F	83·71 °F	73·29 °F	10·42 °F	85·58 °F	73·45 °F	12·13 °F
February	85·93 ,,	76·93 ,,	9·00 ,,	85·55 ,,	75·24 ,,	10·31 ,,	88·14 ,,	74·21 ,,	13·93 ,,
March	86·13 ,,	76·77 ,,	9·36 ,,	85·71 ,,	75·06 ,,	10·65 ,,	88·97 ,,	74·65 ,,	14·32 ,,
April	86·63 ,,	76·53 ,,	10·10 ,,	86·93 ,,	75·53 ,,	11·40 ,,	87·67 ,,	75·57 ,,	12·10 ,,
May	86·00 ,,	76·42 ,,	9·58 ,,	85·51 ,,	75·64 ,,	9·87 ,,	81·87 ,,	76·06 ,,	5·81 ,,
June	86·67 ,,	75·90 ,,	10·77 ,,	86·76 ,,	74·56 ,,	12·20 ,,	88·37 ,,	74·70 ,,	13·67 ,,
July	86·48 ,,	75·83 ,,	10·65 ,,	86·38 ,,	74·06 ,,	12·32 ,,	83·35 ,,	74·74 ,,	8·61 ,,
August	86·58 ,,	76·29 ,,	10·28 ,,	87·06 ,,	74·70 ,,	12·36 ,,	88·26 ,,	75·13 ,,	13·13 ,,
September	86·70 ,,	76·30 ,,	10·40 ,,	86·30 ,,	74·53 ,,	11·77 ,,	87·53 ,,	74·73 ,,	12·80 ,,
October	85·54 ,,	76·29 ,,	9·25 ,,	85·19 ,,	74·54 ,,	10·65 ,,	86·48 ,,	74·39 ,,	12·09 ,,
November	85·90 ,,	76·33 ,,	9·57 ,,	85·30 ,,	74·56 ,,	10·74 ,,	86·10 ,,	75·17 ,,	10·93 ,,
December	85·74 ,,	76·60 ,,	9·14 ,,	85·16 ,,	75·09 ,,	10·07 ,,	86·26 ,,	75·13 ,,	11·13 ,,
Mean Temperature ..	85·58 °F	76·32 °F	9·74 °F	85·88 °F	74·73 °F	11·06 °F	86·55 °F	74·83 °F	11·72 °F

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX C

TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FOR THE YEARS 1934–1936

Name of Article	—	Quantity			Value		
		1934	1935	1936	1934	1935	1936
A.—Food, Drinks and Tobacco—					$	$	$
Rice	pikuls	43,006	48,472	47,341	131,805	187,421	172,777
Other Grains	,,	6,050	4,888	7,437	10,133	15,499	19,173
Milk	cases	3,220	3,346	3,960	28,510	26,914	29,608
Salt	pikuls	2,353	2,827	2,596	1,701	1,885	2,252
Sugar	,,	12,089	11,724	14,519	54,585	48,653	55,359
Tobacco	lbs.	87,309	96,828	97,775	82,917	92,115	93,773
Provisions		..	..	..	180,012	116,199	123,609
Flour	sacks	12,590	12,436	12,082	20,345	20,852	24,183
Coconut Oil	tins	4,434	4,048	5,019	8,740	10,178	16,491
Coffee	pikuls	966	1,177	1,300	18,097	19,020	18,589
Spirit	gallons	10,213*	1,597	1,603	27,965	19,149	16,109
Arrack	,,	375	612	373	938	2,074	1,006
Beer and Stout	,,	No return	6,584	6,019	No return	13,368	11,303
Dried Fish	pikuls	657	605	757	6,152	7,424	9,168
Cattle	Heads	No return	71	72	No return	1,622	1,807
B.—Raw Materials—							
Petroleum	gallons	143,410	182,172	202,972	67,619	82,114	93,387
Timber		..	..	..	50,388	54,800	44,194
Fuel Oil	gallons	19,099	29,601	18,634	6,650	7,158	4,321
Lubricating Oil	,,	No return	27,295	29,385	No return	24,877	23,728
C.—Manufactured Articles—							
Motor Vehicles		..	..	..	21,932	37,998	41,728
Dyed Cotton Goods		..	..	..	76,380	79,192	77,933
Yarn and Thread		..	..	..	10,513	9,268	10,895
Sarongs		..	..	..	21,091	21,593	24,307
Machinery		..	..	..	598,305	394,001	109,408
Chandu	tahils	7,000	7,400	6,400	14,700	22,220	17,360
Matches	tins	1,147	1,253	1,340	6,049	6,856	7,350
Cement	tons	580	1,951	1,253	10,976	22,305	17,966
Miscellaneous		..	..	..	295,365	649,304	802,210
Total					1,751,868	1,994,059	1,869,994

* In 1934 beer and stout were included in this item

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX *D*

TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTS FOR THE YEARS 1934–1936

Name of Article	—	Quantity			Value		
		1934	1935	1936	1934	1935	1936
					$	$	$
A.—Foods Animals and Drinks—							
Cattle	Heads	..	..	3	..	..	98
Poultry	,,	149	68	104	71	53	70
Dried Prawns	pikuls	359	475	579	12,482	15,652	19,219
Sago Flour	,,	1,895	2,603	5,973	2,506	6,177	13,968
Dried Fish	,,	11	170	61	128	1,571	497
B.—Raw Materials—							
Crude Oil	tons	371,591	441,744	445,081	2,371,669	2,785,037	2,975,103
Raw Sago	bayongs (*a*)	21	99	60	20	88	61
Cutch	tons	2,356	2,575	1,994	162,861	177,910	172,743
Forest Produce	..	..	..	..	2,649	11,406	1,879
Plantation Rubber	lbs	3,608,364	3,008,409	2,967,469	671,970	576,159	790,703
Jelutong Rubber	pikuls	2,365	2,235	2,800	39,134	45,060	69,669
Hides and Horns	,,	142	162	130	744	1,095	955
Coal	tons	28	25	49	298	200	392
Prawn Refuse	bags	..	10	..	..	42	..
Natural Gas	cubic feet	792,453,863	464,703,917	516,103,907	113,207	65,375	73,729
C.—Manufactured Articles—							
Brassware	pikuls	18	55	19	1,179	1,833	1,138
Silverware	..	..	..	..	5,139	7,709	7,125
Sarongs	pieces	287	581	652	2,053	1,556	838
Kajangs	bundles	1,382	2,525	2,082	1,001	1,519	1,150
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	3,639	11,057	17,998
Total ..					3,390,750	3,709,499	4,147,335

(*a*) One bayong is equivalent to approximately 150 katties of raw sago

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX *E*

Abstract of Revenue	1934	1935	1936
	$	$	$
CLASS I			
DUTIES, TAXES AND LICENCES—			
Customs	185,273	229,129	230,970
Government Monopolies	46,398	53,369	45,283
Licences and Excise	26,579	30,146	30,562
Poll-Tax	986	1,034	43
Municipal	15,882	15,917	18,295
CLASS II			
FEES OF COURTS AND OFFICES, ETC.—			
Courts	4,630	4,363	3,183
Surveys	1,295	883	1,247
General	10,510	8,704	13,560
CLASS III			
GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKINGS—			
Posts and Telegraphs	10,466	12,099	13,283
Electrical Department	..	10,491	12,616
CLASS IV			
REVENUE FROM GOVERNMENT PROPERTY—			
Land Revenue	317,225	420,924	531,520
Cession Monies	15,200	15,200	15,200
Interest	9,408	10,846	10,108
CLASS V			
LAND SALES—			
Premia on Land Sales	1,169	427	2,819
Total Revenue ..	645,021	813,532	928,689

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX *F*

Abstract of Expenditure	1934	1935	1936
	$	$	$
His Highness the Sultan	20,365	29,061	25,619
Ministers	20,640	20,640	20,760
British Resident	19,728	20,422	24,289
Assistant Resident	26,829	28,166	28,032
Customs and Marine Department	20,276	21,353	20,790
Land and Surveys	4,930	30,004	61,775
Agriculture Department	8,565	9,351	10,947
District Offices	12,573	14,021	8,676
Education	12,452	11,859	14,445
Police	37,289	38,910	39,849
Medical and Health Department	37,877	41,809	42,109
Forest Department	12,373	14,094	15,796
Audit Department	..	3,783	3,349
Political Pensions	9,429	9,429	10,239
Kathi	2,472	2,555	2,759
Interest	15,321	15,132	11,467
Municipal	733	832	1,365
Miscellaneous Services, Annually Recurrent ..	30,829	32,527	39,330
Miscellaneous Services, Special Expenditure ..	14,970	11,810	28,723
Pensions	6,880	7,390	9,956
Posts and Telegraphs	18,912	27,172	21,031
Electrical Department	..	12,907	9,330
Public Works Department	..	21,399	20,689
Public Works, Annually Recurrent ..	68,680	58,466	57,012
Public Works, Special Expenditure ..	138,098	57,909	118,184
Total Expenditure ..	540,221	541,001	646,521
Repayment of Public Debt	4,800	245,200	133,000
Grand Total ..	545,021	786,201	779,521

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX *G*

CUSTOMS TARIFF

(With effect from 14th September, 1936)

IMPORT DUTIES

Description of Article	Unit	Rates of duty	
		Full duty	Preferential duty
I.—*Intoxicating Liquors:*—		$ c.	$ c.
(*a*) Rectified spirit ..	per proof gallon	14 00	
(*b*) Brandy and any other intoxicating liquor not hereinafter provided for	per proof gallon	14 00	10 50
(*c*) Brandy in bottles and accepted by the Proper Officer of Customs as not exceeding 81 per cent. of proof spirit	per gallon	10 00	8 00
(*d*) Whisky, rum and gin ..	per proof gallon	13 00	
(*e*) Whisky, rum and gin in bottle and accepted by the Proper Officer of Customs as not exceeding 81 per cent. of proof spirit ..	per gallon	9 00	
(*f*) Toddy arrack, saki, Chinese samsu including medicated samsu	per gallon	9 00	
(*g*) Bitters and liqueurs ..	per gallon	10 00	
(*h*) Sparkling Wines ..	per gallon	6 00	5 00
(*i*) Still Wines exceeding 26 per cent. proof spirit	per gallon	4 00	3 00
(*j*) Still Wines not exceeding 26 per cent. proof spirit	per gallon	2 00	1 00
(*k*) Ale, beer, stout, porter, cider and perry ..	per gallon	1 10	1 00
II.—*Tobacco:*—			
(*a*) Cigars and snuff ..	per pound	1 20	
(*b*) Cigarettes	per pound	1 00	0 90
(*c*) Chinese tobacco ..	per katty	1 00	
(*d*) Sumatra, Palembang and other Native tobacco	per katty	1 00	
(*e*) Tobacco in tins ..	per pound	1 00	0 90
(*f*) Tobacco not otherwise provided for ..	per pound	0 80	
III.—*Oils (other than edible):*—			
(*a*) Kerosene	per gallon	0 05	
(*b*) Petrol	per gallon	0 20	
(*c*) Not otherwise specified ..	*Ad valorem*	10%	
IV.—(*a*) Sugar, gula kachang, jaggery, molasses, treacle, golden syrup and sugar candy ..	per pikul	2 00	1 50

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX *G—continued*

IMPORT DUTIES—*continued*

Description of Article	Unit	Rates of duty	
		Full duty	Preferential duty
IV.—*contd.*		$ c.	$ c.
(*b*) Syrup and solutions containing more than 30 per cent. of sugar ..	per gallon	0 20	0 15
Provided that articles which are dutiable under any other paragraph shall not be dutiable under this paragraph also.			
V.—*Arms and Ammunitions:*—			
(*a*) Rifles, guns, pistols and revolvers	each	5 00	
(*b*) Cartridges, loaded or empty	per 1000	1 00	Free
Import permit from the Police must be previously obtained.			
VI.—Matches	per tin of 120 packages	4 00	
VII.—Kachang and ground nut oil, coconut oil and lard ..	*Ad valorem*	5%	
VIII.—(*a*) Cement	per ton	6 00	3 00
(*b*) Cement manufactures including tiles ..	*Ad valorem*	5%	
IX.—Cosmetics and perfumery ..	*Ad valorem*	30%	15%
X.—*Textiles and apparel:*—			
(*a*) Piece-goods made of cotton, linen, artificial silk, and all mixtures made of cotton, linen, artificial silk, silk and, or, other materials ..	*Ad valorem* or per yard	10% or 2 cents per square yard whichever is higher.	5% or 1 cent per square yard whichever is higher.
(*b*) Cotton, linen, jute, silk or artificial silk, felt, flannel, woolen and all textile goods made from plant fibre, whether finished goods or not, other than yarn, thread, gunnies and waste, except as provided in (*a*) above	*Ad valorem* or in the case of made up piece-goods	10% or 5 cents per square yard whichever is higher.	5% or 2½ cents per square yard whichever is higher.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX *G—continued*

IMPORT DUTIES—*continued*

Description of Article	Unit	Rates of duty	
		Full duty	Preferential duty
X.—*Textiles and apparel—cont.*		$ c.	$ c.
(*c*) Wearing apparel not otherwise provided for, including boots, bootees, shoes, overshoes, slippers and sandals of all descriptions and of whatever material finished or unfinished, other than articles specified in the next following item	*Ad valorem*	10%	5%
(*d*) Boots, bootees, shoes, overshoes, slippers and sandals of all descriptions made wholly or partly of rubber, balata or gutta-percha (except where the outer part of the uppers apart from stitchings, fastenings or ornaments is made entirely of leather or leather and elastic	per pair	0 15	0 05
(*e*) Rubber soles	per pair	0 10	Free
XI.—*Cycles and Accessories:—*			
(*a*) Cycles—complete ..	each	4 50	1 50
(*b*) Saddles	each	0 30	0 10
(*c*) Frames—complete ..	each	3 00	1 00
(*d*) Frames—parts of ..	per piece	0 15	0 05
(*e*) Rims	each	0 30	0 10
(*f*) Handlebars—with fittings and otherwise ..	each	0 30	0 10
(*g*) Chains	each	0 30	0 10
(*h*) Cycle pumps	per dozen	0 30	Free
(*i*) Cycle tyres (outer covers)	per cover	0 15	0 08
(*j*) Cycle inner tubes ..	per tube	0 06	0 03
XII.—(*a*) Motor and motor-cycle tyres (outer covers) ..	*Ad valorem*	20%	Free
(*b*) Motor and motor-cycle inner tubes	*Ad valorem*	20%	Free
XIII.—(*a*) Pianos	*Ad valorem*	10%	
(*b*) Other musical instruments, wireless receiving and transmitting sets and parts thereof including gramophones, electrical gramophones			

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX *G—continued*

IMPORT DUTIES—*continued*

Description of Article	Unit	Rates of duty	
		Full duty	Preferential duty
XIII.—*cont.*		$ c.	$ c.
or reproducers, phonographs, records, needles, valves and other parts or accessories	*Ad valorem*	10%	5%
XIV.—Tea	per pound	0 05	0 03
XV.—Ground nuts	per pikul	1 00	0 50
XVI.—Manufactured brass, bronze and copperware	*Ad valorem*	5%	
XVII.—Machinery and electrical equipment, exclusive of motor vehicles and parts thereof	*Ad valorem*	5%	
XVIII.—Building and house materials of all kinds	*Ad valorem*	5%	
Provided that articles which are dutiable under any other paragraph of Schedule *A* shall not be dutiable under this paragraph also.			
XIX.—Crockery, earthenware and glassware	*Ad valorem*	10%	
XX.—Iron and Ironware including agricultural implements ..	*Ad valorem*	5%	
Provided that no motor vehicle or parts thereof shall be dutiable under this section.			
XXI.—Paint and painting materials ..	*Ad valorem*	10%	
XXII.—Timber	*Ad valorem*	10%	
XXIII.—Pigs	per head	5 00	
XXIV.—Dried fish	*Ad valorem*	10%	
XXV.—Dyestuffs	*Ad valorem*	100%	Free
XXVI.—Clocks, watches, cameras and jewellery	*Ad valorem*	5%	
XXVII.—Explosives, fireworks and crackers	*Ad valorem*	25%	
Import permit from the Police must be previously obtained.			

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX *G—continued*

EXPORT DUTIES

Description of Article	Duty
I.—Brassware, per katty	10 cents.
II.—Cattle and buffaloes, per head ..	$15.00.
Exportation permissible only under special permit from British Resident.	
III.—Copra	2½% *ad valorem.*
IV.—Coal	As provided in agreement.
V.—Cutch	As provided in agreement.
VI.—Poultry, per head	20 cents.
VII.—Gambier	10% *ad valorem.*
VIII.—Hides and horns	10% *ad valorem.*
IX.—Mineral Oils	As provided in agreement.
X.—Orang Utan, per head	$250.
XI.—Pepper	5% *ad valorem.*
XII.—Dried prawns, per pikul	$3.
XIII.—Prawn refuse, per rice sack ..	50 cents.
XIV.—Pigs, per head	$4.
XV.—*Sago:*—	
(*a*) Trunk	10% *ad valorem.*
(*b*) Raw, per bayong	15 cents.
(*c*) Flour, per rice sack ..	20 cents.
XVI.—Tobacco, locally grown	5% *ad valorem.*
XVII.—Plantation Rubber	2½% *ad valorem.*

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX *H*

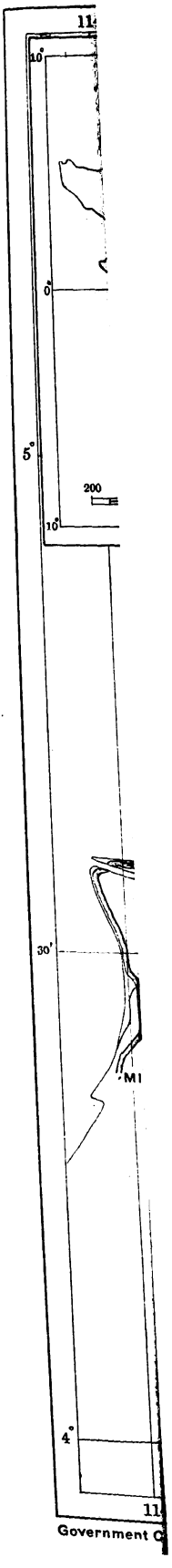
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1936

Liabilities	31st December, 1936		Assets	31st December, 1936	
	$ c.	$ c.		$ c.	$ c.
Deposits:—					
Land Office	2,888.85		Cash in Treasury	17,570.93	
Money Orders	2,956.33		Cash in Bank	253,587.67	
Courts	419.12				271,158.60
Mohammedan Fund ..	1,072.57		Loans (secured)	..	61,288.95
Police Reward Fund ..	327.32		Advances	..	12,142.93
Prisoner's Aid Fund ..	779.72		Suspense	..	18,671.02
Family Remittance ..	899.99		Investments (Surplus Funds) ..		
Rubber Fund	18,786.39		Dollar Securities (at cost) ..	67,550.00	
Miscellaneous	12,151.32		Sterling Securities (at cost) ..	150,723.79	
		40,281.61			218,273.79
Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund		129,236.53	Investments Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund (at cost) ..	..	129,236.53
Surplus of Assets over Liabilities ..		541,253.68			
Total ..		710,771.82	Total ..		710,771.82

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935. [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps. [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. 0d. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent Chichester Street

or throu

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

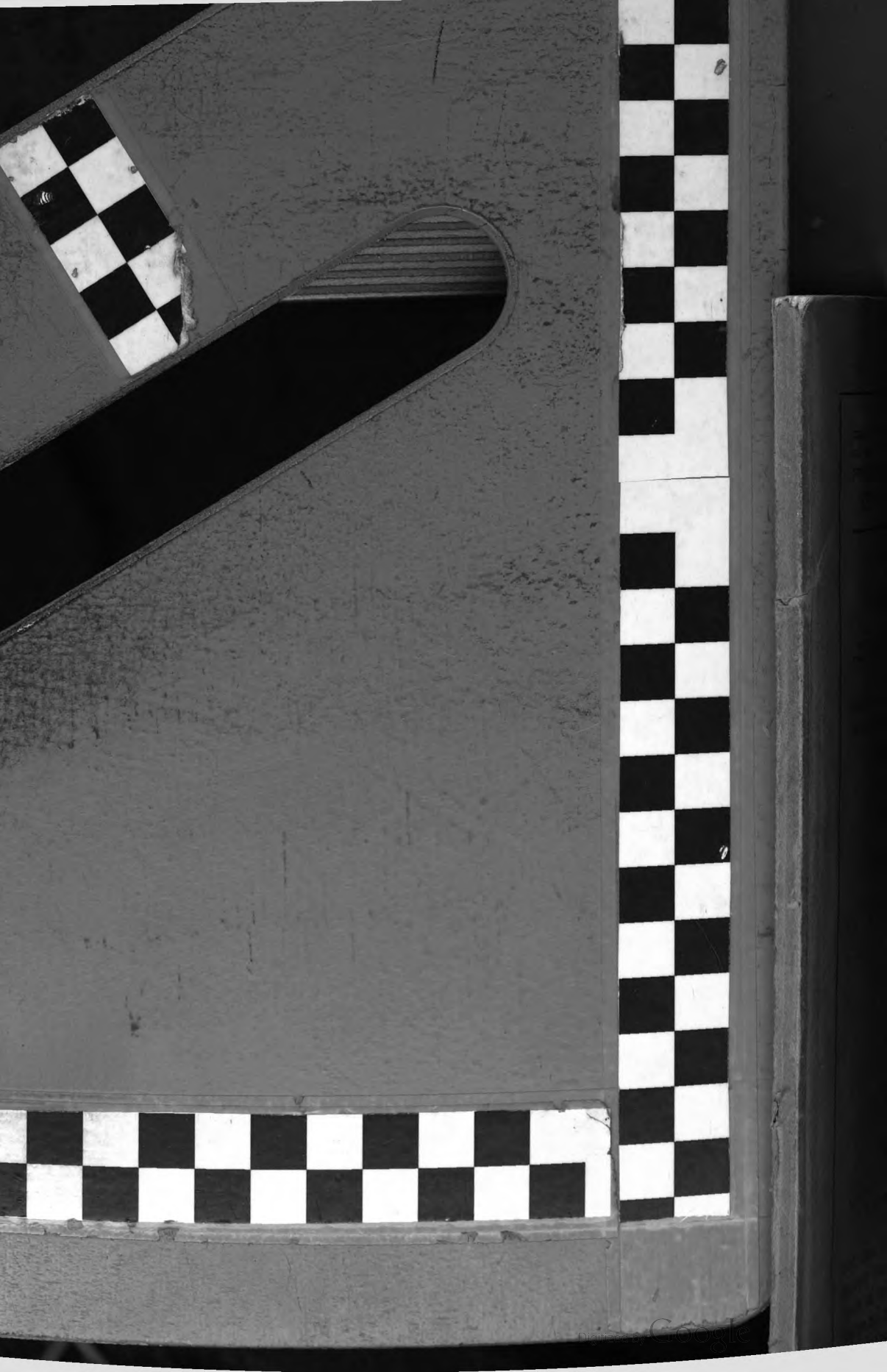
(45726—48) Wt. 2641—3921 550 11/37 P. St. G. 377/7 S.O. Code No. 58–1813

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google


Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google



JV
33
.G7
A3

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
GENERAL LIBRARY

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1812

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1726 (Price 4s. 6d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1783 (Price 5s. 0d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1937
Price 4s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1812

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1726 (Price 4s. 6d.) and for Report for 1935 see No. 1783 (Price 5s. 0d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved



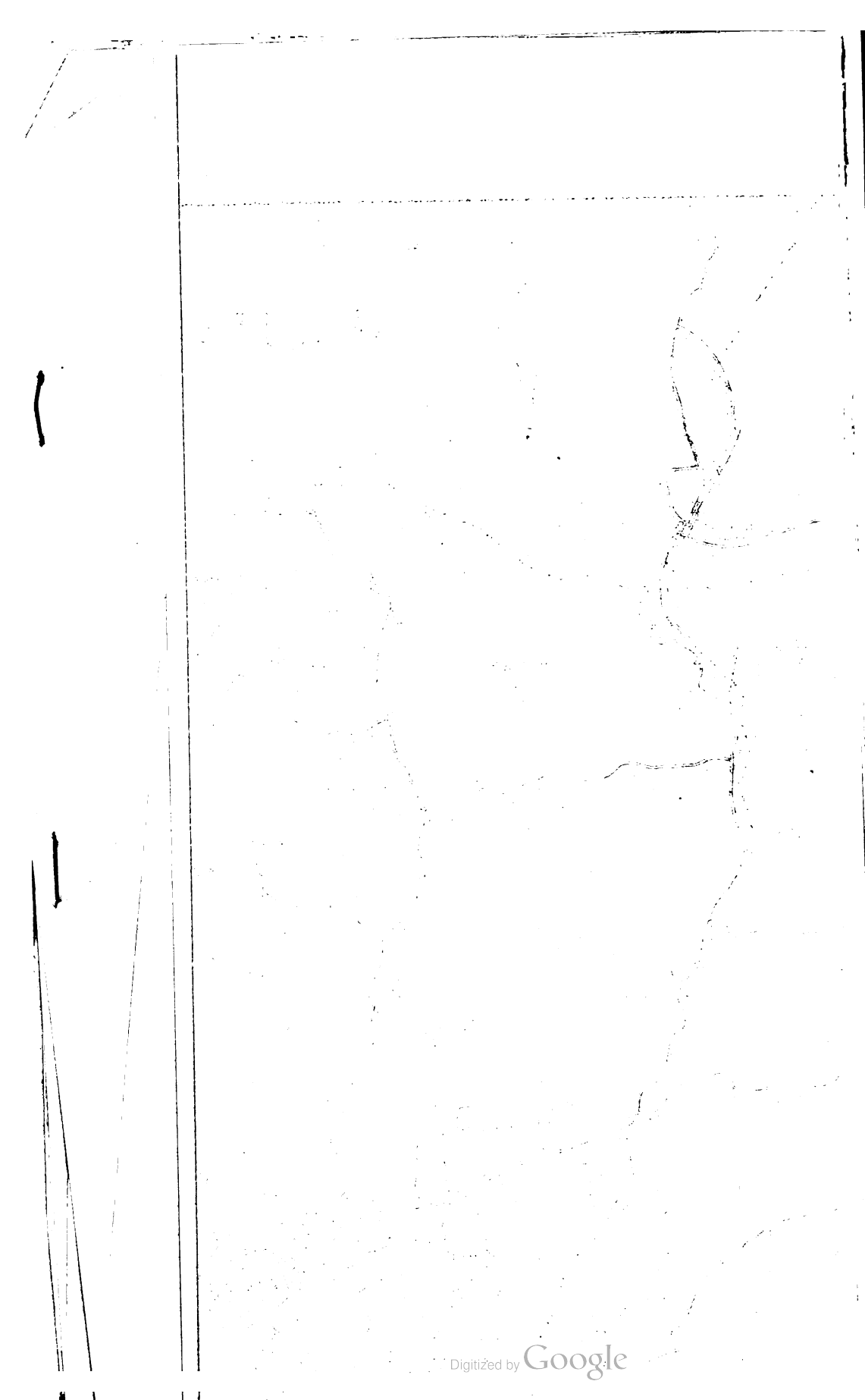
LONDON
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
(PRINTED IN THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS)
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 4s. 6d. net

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google


Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Brit. Govt. Pub.
Satherlan
12-23-37
15-209

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS 1936

CHAPTER I

A.—GEOGRAPHY

The Straits Settlements comprise the four Settlements of Singapore (including Christmas Island and the Cocos-Keeling group), Penang (including Province Wellesley), Malacca and Labuan. The first three were transferred from the control of the Indian Government to that of the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the 1st April, 1867, by an Order in Council, issued under the authority of an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Singapore is an island about 27 miles long by 14 wide, and about 217 square miles in area. It is separated from the southern extremity of the Malay Peninsula by a narrow strait about three-quarters of a mile in width, across which a causeway for road and railway has now been built. There are a number of small islands adjacent to Singapore which also form part of the Settlement.

The seat of Government is the town of Singapore, at the southern point of the island.

Christmas Island is situated in the Indian Ocean about 190 miles South of the western extremity of Java. The island, which is densely wooded, has an area of about 60 square miles, and contains extensive deposits of phosphate of lime.

The Cocos or Keeling Islands lie about 700 miles south-west of Batavia. The largest is five miles long and a quarter of a mile wide. There are large coconut plantations, and copra, oil and nuts are exported.

Penang is an island about 15 miles long and 9 broad, and about 108 square miles in area. It is situated off the west coast of the Malay Peninsula, at the northern extremity of the Straits of Malacca. The chief town is George Town. On the opposite shore of the mainland, from which the island is separated by a strait varying in width from 2 to 10 miles, lies *Province Wellesley,* a strip of territory averaging 8 miles in width, and extending 45 miles along the coast, the whole containing an area of 280 square miles. The principal town of the province is Butterworth.

Malacca is a town situated on the west coast of the Peninsula about 110 miles from Singapore and 240 from Penang. It gives its name to the Settlement of Malacca, a strip of territory about 42 miles in length and varying in breadth from 8 to 25 miles, with a total area of about 637 square miles. At one time it gave its name to the whole peninsula, which is still known to the French as the Presqu'ile de Malacca.

Labuan is an island, some 40 square miles in area, lying six miles off the north-west coast of Borneo, and distant about 725 miles from Singapore. It has a fine port, Victoria Harbour, safe and easy of access. Headquarters are at the town of Victoria.

Digitized by Google

B.—HISTORY

Malacca, said to have been founded by fugitives from the sack of Singapore in 1365 and known as an important independent state from early in the fifteenth century, is one of the oldest European Settlements in the East, having been captured by the Portuguese under Albuquerque in 1511, and held by them till 1641, when the Dutch, after frequent attempts, succeeded in driving them out. The Settlement remained in the possession of the Dutch till 1795, when it was occupied by the British. In 1818 it was restored to Holland, but was finally transferred to British rule by the Treaty of London in 1824, being exchanged for the British Settlements in Sumatra.

Under Malay and Portuguese rule Malacca was one of the great entrepôts for the commerce of the East. But, with the development of Dutch commerce in Java and the Malay Archipelago, its importance gradually declined and it ceased to be of consequence as a collecting centre, except for the trade of the Malay Peninsula and the Island of Sumatra. This trade it retained under Dutch rule till the founding of Penang by Francis Light in 1786. In a few years from that date its trade dwindled and it has never recovered its old commercial pre-eminence although the development of plantation rubber in the present century has restored to town and territory a large measure of prosperity.

The earliest British Settlement in the Malay Peninsula was Penang, or Prince of Wales Island, which was ceded in 1786 to the East India Company by the Raja of Kedah in consideration for an annual payment of $6,000. In 1800, owing to the prevalence of piracy, a strip of the coast of the mainland, now called Province Wellesley, was also acquired from the Raja of Kedah, the annual payment being increased to $10,000.

The island of Pangkor and the Sembilan Islands were ceded to Great Britain by Perak in 1826, for the suppression of piracy. In 1874 the cession was confirmed by the Treaty of Pangkor, by which the strip of territory on the mainland opposite, known as the Dindings, also became British and remained a part of the Settlement of Penang until its retrocession to the State of Perak in February, 1935.

In 1805 Penang was made a separate Presidency, of equal rank with Madras and Bombay. In 1826 Singapore and Malacca were incorporated with it under one Government, Penang still remaining the seat of Government. In 1836 the seat of Government was transferred to Singapore.

With the establishment of Penang the trade of Malacca passed to it. But no sooner was Singapore founded than Penang in its turn had to yield first place to the port with the better strategic position and came to depend chiefly on the local trade. At first inconsiderable that trade has become large and important with the expansion of tin mining and rubber planting in the adjacent Malay States, and the development of trade with neighbouring countries.

The original city of Singapore is said to have been founded by immigrants from Sumatra. It rose to prominence in the fourteenth century but was destroyed by the Javanese about 1365. Thenceforth it was little more than a fishing village until Sir Stamford Raffles founded a settlement there in 1819 by virtue of a treaty with the Johore princes, and later acquired the whole island for the East India Company. The new Settlement was at first subordinate to Bencoolen in Sumatra, but in 1823, it was placed under the Government of Bengal and in 1826 was, as above stated, united with Penang and Malacca, under the Governor and Council of the Incorporated Settlements.

Digitized by Google

The Cocos or Keeling Islands were declared a British possession in 1857. In 1903, they were annexed to the Straits Settlements and incorporated with the Settlement of Singapore.

Christmas Island was annexed in 1888, and placed under the administration of the Governor of the Straits Settlements. In 1900 it was made part of the Settlement of Singapore.

Labuan was ceded to Great Britain by the Sultan of Brunei in 1846. It was governed as a separate Crown Colony until the end of 1889 after which the administration was transferred to the British North Borneo Company. At the end of 1905 the Governor of the Straits Settlements was appointed also Governor of Labuan, the island still remaining a separate Colony. In 1907 it was annexed to the Straits Settlements and declared part of the Settlement of Singapore; and in 1912 it was constituted a separate Settlement.

C.—CLIMATE

The characteristic features of the climate of the Straits Settlements are uniform temperature, high humidity and copious rainfall. The variation of temperature throughout the year is very small and the excessively high temperatures found in continental tropical areas are never experienced.

The mean temperature during 1936 was:—

Singapore (Kallang Aerodrome) ...	... 80·8°F
Penang (District Hospital) ...	... 82·0°F
Province Wellesley (Bagan Dalam)	... 80·8°F
Malacca (Bukit China)	... 79·8°F

The mean monthly maximum and minimum temperature varied as follows:—

	Mean Monthly Maximum		*Mean Monthly Minimum*	
	Highest (°*F*)	*Lowest* (°*F*)	*Highest* (°*F*)	*Lowest* (°*F*)
Singapore	87·7 Feb.	84·6 Oct.	77·7 July	74·5 Jan. and Dec.
Penang	92·4 Mar.	87·7 Oct.	75·3 April	73·4 June

The extremes of temperature (highest maximum and lowest minimum recorded were:—

	Highest °*F*	*Lowest* °*F*
Singapore	92 on 1st March	71 on 16th July and 11th October
Penang	95 on several days	68 on 29th February

There are no well marked dry and wet seasons, rain falling throughout the year.

Records for 64 years at Singapore show that the average annual rainfall is 95 inches. December is the wettest month with a little over 10 inches while February, May, June, July and September are the dry months with between 6½ and 7 inches. Rain falls on the average on half the days in the year.

The wettest year recorded was 1913 with 135·92 inches and the driest 1888 with 63·21 inches.

Records of 50 years at Penang show an annual rainfall of 107½ inches, October being the wettest month with nearly 17 inches and February the driest with three inches; rain falling on the average on about 165 days in the year.

Digitized by Google

The force of the monsoon is not much felt though the prevailing winds are generally in the direction of the monsoon blowing at the time *viz.*:—

S.W. from May to October,
N.E. from November to April.

At coastal stations, however, the diurnal land and sea breezes are often stronger than the prevailing monsoons.

The rainfall recorded was as follows:—

	1934	*1935*	*1936*	*No. of Rainfall days in 1936*
Singapore ...	106·55″	72·76″	85·51″	211
Penang	137·31″	107·98″	96·20″	156
Malacca	91·43″	95·92″	92·44″	201
Province Wellesley	111·13″	91·02″	94·15″	189
Labuan	124·51″	140·59″	127·82″	192

Although the days are hot, and, on account of the high humidity somewhat oppressive, the nights are almost always reasonably cool, and it rarely happens that refreshing sleep is not obtained. The effect of the heat and humidity, without seasonal change, is however cumulative, and after a few years a change to a bracing climate becomes imperative for Europeans if health is to be maintained.

CHAPTER II

Government

The Government consists of a Governor aided by an Executive Council and a Legislative Council.

The Governor is appointed by Commission under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, during His Majesty's pleasure. His office is constituted and his powers defined by the Letters Patent dated the 17th February, 1911, as amended by the Letters Patent dated the 18th August, 1924 and the 18th March, 1935, respectively.

The Executive Council consists of the Governor as President, the General Officer Commanding the Troops, Malaya, the Colonial Secretary, the Resident Councillor, Penang, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, the Resident Councillor, Malacca, two Official Members and three Unofficial Members. It is constituted, and its members are appointed, under the Letters Patent mentioned above and the Royal Instructions dated the 18th August, 1924, as amended by Additional Instructions dated the 23rd February, 1931 and the 12th February, 1932, respectively. The appointments of Official and Unofficial Members are nominative, and are subject to the approval or disallowance of His Majesty the King.

The Legislative Council is constituted by the Letters Patent and the Royal Instructions, and its procedure is governed by its own Standing Orders. Under the Royal Instructions dated the 18th August, 1924, the constitution of the Legislative Council was enlarged when for the first time it contained an elective element, provision being made for the election of two members by the Chambers of Commerce, Singapore and Penang, respectively. The Council is now composed of the Governor as President, eleven *ex-officio* Members, two Official Members, two elected Unofficial Members and eleven Nominated Unofficial Members. The appointments

Digitized by Google

of the Nominated Unofficial Members are subject to the confirmation or disallowance of His Majesty the King.

Legislation may be effected by Acts of the Imperial Parliament, Orders of the King in Council, and Ordinances of the Legislative Council. The Governor convokes and prorogues the Councils, initiates legislation, and assents to or vetoes Bills, or reserves them for Signification of the Royal pleasure. The King has the right to disallow the Ordinances of the Colony.

The administration of ordinary affairs, subject to the direction of the Governor in matters requiring submission to him, is carried on in Singapore by the Colonial Secretary, in Penang and Malacca by the Resident Councillors assisted by their District Officers, and in Labuan by the Resident.

The administration of the Towns of Singapore, Penang, and Malacca, is vested in the Municipalities whose members are appointed by the Governor. Similar bodies, known as Rural Boards, administer the Rural areas within the three Settlements. The Municipalities and Rural Boards are constituted under the Municipal Ordinance which also prescribes their duties and defines their powers. By its provisions, the essential and ultimate control remains vested in the Governor in Council.

CHAPTER III

Population

A.—VITAL STATISTICS

In estimating the mean population of the Straits Settlements for the year 1936, the method of calculation adopted last year has been followed. This takes account of the excess of births over deaths and the excess of emigration over immigration, or *vice versa,* since the census.

This change of method was rendered necessary by the large exodus of labourers, chiefly Chinese, Tamils and Javanese, which took place during the years 1931, 1932 and 1933. Under normal conditions these non-Malayan units form such a large proportion of the total population that the excess of emigration over immigration during the three years immediately following the census of 1931, became the dominant factor in determining the resident population, but the losses due to emigration during the slump years 1931–1933, have been almost fully regained.

The population of the Straits Settlements on June 30th, 1936, is estimated to be 1,168,197. This estimate is derived from the estimated total of 1,117,023 for 1935, adjusted in accordance with the following :—

(*a*) An excess of 22,067 births over the number of deaths,

(*b*) and of 29,107 representing the balance of immigrants over emigrants as at the end of the same period.

Cocos and Keeling Islands and Christmas Island which also form part of the Straits Settlements are not included, owing to the difficulty of obtaining accurate and regular figures.

The population of Christmas Island and of Cocos and Keeling Islands for 1936, is returned as 2,228 of which 1,086 are on Christmas Island. If this figure is added to the total for the rest of the Straits Settlements, then the total population is 1,170,425.

Digitized by Google

The distribution of the population by race amongst the various Settlements as on 30th June, 1936, is estimated as follows:—

	Singapore	*Penang*	*Province Wellesley*	*Malacca*	*Labuan*	*Total*
European ...	10,452	1,747	284	422	29	12,934
Eurasians ...	7,437	2,177	288	2,205	43	12,150
Malays ...	69,972	40,781	73,902	104,261	5,130	294,046
Chinese ...	455,191	131,183	48,394	71,239	2,397	708,404
Indians ...	51,740	28,347	24,996	24,085	147	129,315
Others ...	8,371	1,759	541	616	61	11,348
Total ...	603,163	205,994	148,405	202,828	7,807	1,168,197

The second inter decennial census carried out in Singapore town was undertaken on the night of 30th June–1st July, by the Municipal Authorities. The actual census figure obtained was 490,155 as compared with an estimated figure of 500,353 and the distribution of population by nationalities was as follows:—

Europeans	8,338
Eurasians	7,151
Malays	45,077
Chinese	374,117
Indians	47,402
Japanese	3,695
Others	4,375
Total ...	490,155

Government paid one-third of the cost of the census.

Births.—The births registered during the year totalled 51,788 as against 46,649 in 1935. The birth-rate was 44·33 per thousand of the estimated population; compared with 41·76 for the preceding year.

The percentage of males born was 51·18 as compared with 52·21 during the year 1935.

Deaths.—The crude death-rate was 24·91 per thousand; that for 1935 was 25·11 and the average for the ten years 1927–1936 was 26·20 as recorded in the annual report of the Registrar of Births and Deaths.

Infantile Mortality.—The infantile mortality rate was 170·85 per thousand as against 165·25 in 1935 which is the lowest yet recorded and an average of 178·27 over the ten years 1927–1936.

B.—MIGRATION STATISTICS

Measurements of migration are dealt with on a Malayan basis. Migration is a subject of special interest in Malaya owing to the attraction of the country for foreign capital and for labour from India, China and the neighbouring countries of the Archipelago, and also to the situation of Singapore and Penang at the junction of ocean trade-routes. Until 1930 immigration was practically free, and one of the important activities of Singapore was the importation of labourers from China. In that year a quota system was applied to the immigration of adult male labourers from China with the objects of reducing unemployment, raising the standard of labour and improving the sex ratio. In 1932 the Aliens Ordinance which is administered by the Immigration Department extended this control,

Digitized by Google

subject to certain temporary exceptions to all adult male immigrants of other than British or British-protected nationality.

Statistics of migration between Malaya and foreign countries by land, sea and air are collected by the Statistics Department and published monthly in the *Gazette*. These include particulars as to race, sex, proportion of minors, country of original departure or ultimate destination, and the Malayan port of entry. Tables are also published to show arrivals and departures of Chinese, Southern Indian and Javanese deck passengers, as indicating movements of labour. Copies of the summaries for the year are included in the Appendices.

Migration statistics are also, as already indicated, of importance as an aid to an estimation of the population in the periods between censuses.

The population of Malaya as ascertained by the census on the 1st April, 1931, was 4,385,346, that of the Straits Settlements being 1,114,015 or approximately one quarter. The populations on the 30th June, 1936, were estimated as 4,694,166 and 1,170,425 respectively. The immigration surplus for the year was 82,809 persons as compared with 125,206 in 1935. The total gain to the population for the two years was 208,015 persons. This gain does not, however, counterbalance the emigration surplus of 353,436 persons during the period from the 1931 Census to 31st December, 1933, the net loss to the population through migration from the Census of 1931 to the end of 1936 being 3,332 persons. The dominant factor in Malayan migration statistics is the movement of Chinese and Southern Indian labourers which is largely dependent on the welfare of Malaya's two major industries, rubber and tin. Net arrivals of Chinese, Javanese and Southern Indian deck passengers for the year 1935 amounted to 103,900. Arrivals exceeded departures throughout the year, but there was a drop in the months of February, August, November and December; the net surplus of arrivals for the year being 72,635. A further reference to movements of Southern Indian and Chinese labour is made in the following sections of this chapter.

The following table shows the racial composition of the migrational surplus or deficit during the last three years:—

MIGRATIONAL SURPLUS, MALAYA

Race	*1934*	*1935*	*1936*
Europeans and Americans ...	+ 1,599	+ 1,674	+ 2,773
Eurasians	+ 263	+ 145	+ 70
Japanese	+ 423	+ 365	+ 429
Chinese	+ 61,639	+ 90,986	+ 75,801
Malays	+ 3,425	− 3,060	− 4,326
Northern Indians ...	+ 7,132	+ 3,848	+ 2,061
Southern Indians ...	+ 66,666	+ 33,045	+ 7,909
Others	+ 942	− 1,797	− 1,908
Total ...	+ 142,089	+ 125,206	+ 82,809

For the year 1936 the total number of arrivals (to the nearest thousand) was 526,000, a decrease of 4 per cent. and of departures 443,000, an increase of 5 per cent.

The majority of passengers travelled by sea. Penang and Port Swettenham were the main ports of entry for Southern Indian labourers, but for other races Singapore was the main port of entry and departure. Migration by land hardly exists, except for the ebb and flow of Malays,

Digitized by Google

Chinese and Siamese resident on their side of the border between Siam and Malaya, and over a period of years the population of Malaya is little affected by it. Passenger transport by air is growing and showed a bigger increase than in 1935. Most of the passengers travelling by air were Europeans, but increasing numbers of Japanese, Chinese and Malay passengers were recorded.

C.—MOVEMENTS OF LABOUR

(i).—INDIAN IMMIGRATION*

(*a*) The total number of immigrants from Southern India who arrived at Penang by the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers in 1936 was 43,191. This is less by 22,000 than the figure of 65,191 for 1935.

The immigrants were of the following classes:—

Assisted immigrants (labourers and dependants assisted to emigrate at the expense of the Indian Immigration Fund for work on estates, etc., in Malaya)	3,754
Non-assisted immigrants (traders and others who paid their own passages)	39,437
Total ...	43,191

Of the non-assisted immigrants 24,104 (61%), were of the labouring classes, the remaining 15,333 being traders and others. It is estimated that about one-third of the non-assisted immigrants remained in the Colony, the remainder proceeding to the Federated Malay States and Unfederated Malay States. Of the assisted immigrants, 200 arrived to work in the Colony.

The following table shows the number of assisted passages taken during the last five years, for labourers and their families from Southern India to Malaya, and paid for from the Indian Immigration Fund:—

1932	12
1933	13
1934	36,712
1935	16,709
1936	3,097

The fall in the number of assisted immigrants in 1936 as compared with 1935 was due to the decline in the demand for labour consequent on the working of the Rubber Restriction Scheme.

(*b*) In addition to the immigrants who arrived by the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers 1,075 deck passengers arrived by steamers of the Messageries Maritimes line.

(ii).—INDIAN EMIGRATION

(*a*) The number of deck passengers who left Penang for Southern India by the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers in 1936 was 40,075 (34,596 adults, 2,927 minors and 2,552 infants) as against 38,392 (33,726 adults, 2,444 minors and 2,222 infants) in 1935.

Of the above, 28,300 adults, accompanied by 1,393 minors and 1,753 infants, paid their own passages, while 6,296 adults, 1,534 minors and 799 infants were repatriated through the Labour Department.

* The word immigrant, as used here in connection with Indian immigration, means a deck-passenger only, and does not include first or second class passengers.

Digitized by Google

Of those repatriated through the Labour Department most of the 5,713 adults, accompanied by 1,394 minors and 728 infants, were unfit for work, while the remaining 583 adults, 140 minors and 71 infants were repatriated at the expense of private employers or Government Departments or on free passages granted by the British India Steam Navigation Company.

The repatriates from the Colony were made up as follows:—

	Adults	*Minors*	*Infants*
1. Sent at the expense of the Straits Settlements Government and Indian Immigration Fund ...	868	149	60
2. Sent at the expense of estates and Government Departments	60	6	2
3. Carried free of charge by the British India Steam Navigation Company ...	66	11	5
	994	166	67

There was throughout the year a steadily maintained return traffic to India of labourers paying their own passages, traders and other deck passengers.

The number of adult labourers was 14,916 as against 13,364 in 1935 while the number of traders and other non-labourers was 13,384 as against 15,825 in 1935.

(*b*) In addition to the above, 482 deck passengers left for South India by steamers of the Messageries Maritimes.

(iii).—Chinese Immigration

The immigration of adult male Chinese aliens arriving in the Colony from China ports (including Hong Kong) was restricted by Proclamation under the Aliens Ordinance. The quota was fixed at 4,000 a month throughout the year. This restriction applies to adult male Chinese arriving on the ships of the six quota companies. Other shipping companies are restricted to a total of 25 a month each.

Alien Chinese in possession of certificates of admission or certificates of residence issued under the Aliens Ordinance in the Colony or under a corresponding Aliens Enactment in a Malay State are exempted from the provisions of Part I of the Aliens Ordinance and are therefore not counted against the quota.

The total number of Chinese entering the Colony under the quota during the year was 47,859.

The total number of Chinese who arrived on non-quota ships was 2,760.

The total number of Chinese who arrived in possession of certificates of admission or certificates of residence was 18,939.

The total number of male Chinese from China ports (including Hong Kong) who arrived during the year was, therefore, 69,558, compared with 81,775 in 1935, 52,023 in 1934, 13,535 in 1933, 18,741 in 1932 and 50,120 in 1931.

Digitized by Google

No restriction is placed on the immigration of women and children. 49,632 women and 24,141 children entered the Colony from China ports. The corresponding figures for the last five years were:—

	Women	*Children*
1931	17,042	11,923
1932	8,652	6,141
1933	8,199	6,062
1934	29,678	17,163
1935	38,621	21,496

The number of women to a thousand men arriving from China ports during the years 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935 and 1936 was 340, 462, 605, 570, 472 and 713 respectively.

(iv).—Chinese Emigration

The total number of Chinese deck passengers leaving Malayan ports for China during the year was 80,578 as against 69,025 in 1935.

Fares for deck passengers to and from China were as follows:—

The fares from Singapore to China ports at the end of the year were from $11 to $18 to Hong Kong and $13 to $22 to Amoy and Swatow (Straits Currency).

For passengers counted against the quota from Amoy, Swatow and Hong Kong to Singapore the fares varied as follows:—

$50 to $55 (China currency) and $55 (China currency) and $40 to $50 (Hong Kong currency) respectively.

For passengers not counted against the quota from Amoy, Swatow and Hong Kong to Singapore the fares were $35 to $45 (China currency), $30 to $45 (China currency) and $25 to $35 (Hong Kong currency) respectively.

All the fares above quoted were subject to broker's commission.

CHAPTER IV

Health

A.—PREVALENCE OF, AND MORTALITY ARISING FROM THE PRINCIPAL DISEASES

(i).—General

(1) *Malaria* accounted for one thousand three hundred and fifteen deaths as compared with 1,698 for the year 1935. This low figure is reflected, as is usual in these circumstances, in the number of deaths due to fever unspecified which was 3,562 compared with 3,787 in 1935.

(2) *Tuberculosis.*—Two thousand three hundred and sixty-two deaths were registered as due to tuberculosis as compared with 2,267 for 1935. Pulmonary tuberculosis was responsible for 2,181 deaths equivalent to 7·5% of the total deaths for all causes. The measures taken for prevention may be classified under four main headings:—

(*a*) *Education.*—Every endeavour is made by means of films, posters, leaflets, informal talks, etc., to educate the people in methods of cleanliness and personal hygiene with a view to avoiding infection and limiting its spread.

Digitized by Google

(b) *Improvement of housing and general sanitation.*—The Singapore Improvement Trust's policy of constructing backlanes in the congested areas, was energetically continued during the year. There are also schemes for the demolition of slums, the building of cottages and tenements and the establishment of open spaces.

(c) *Special measures of sanitation.*—Preventive and curative measures against malaria and ankylostomiasis are carried out on a large scale and have the effect of improving the general health and raising the natural resistance of the people against infection by tuberculosis.

(d) *Hospital treatment.*—Beds for tuberculous cases are available in Government hospitals and beds for the special treatment of tuberculosis exist in the General Hospitals in Singapore, Penang and Malacca, and also in Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore.

(3) *Pneumonia.*—Pneumonia caused 2,624 deaths as against 2,541 in 1935, giving a percentage of 90·2 per thousand deaths.

(4) *Beri-beri.*—One thousand and eighty deaths were caused by beri-beri as compared with 916 deaths in the previous year.

(5) *Dysentery.*—The deaths from this disease totalled 314. The mortality rate from this disease is steadily decreasing.

(ii).—Dangerous Infectious Diseases

(1) *Plague.*—No case occurred.

(2) *Cholera.*—No case occurred.

(3) *Small-pox.*—No case occurred.

(4) *Cerebro-spinal fever.*—Twenty-one cases occurred of which nineteen died.

(iii).—Venereal Diseases

The treatment of this disease is supervised by the Chief Medical Officer, Social Hygiene, who is the officer in immediate charge of a special branch of the Medical Department known as the Social Hygiene Branch.

The treatment centres in the Straits Settlements, which number 26, are distributed as follows:—

Singapore	7
Penang (including Province Wellesley) ...	12
Malacca	7

Singapore.—The number of new cases treated shows an increase on the previous year:—

1935	9,966 cases
1936	11,051 ,,

Penang.—The figures for 1936 shows an increase of 378 cases as compared with that of 1935:—

1935	6,774 cases
1936	7,152 ,,

Malacca.—There was also an increase in the Settlement of Malacca, as shown in the following figures:—

1935	3,601 cases
1936	4,477 ,,

Digitized by Google

Number of Seamen treated.—The new admissions to the clinics for sailors of whom 260 were British and 139 non-British Europeans, totalled 1,064. Of the remainder, 552 were Chinese, 9 Malays, 64 Indians and 44 other races.

Serological Reactions.—Three thousand and twenty-nine and fifteen thousand nine hundred and eighty specimens of blood were submitted for Kahn and Wassermann tests respectively, of which 907 and 6,153 gave positive results.

Propaganda.—Pamphlets and leaflets were freely distributed to the public, and posters drawing the attention to the dangers of venereal disease and the facilities for free treatment, have been displayed throughout the town of Singapore.

(iv).—YAWS

There was a decrease in the number of cases of yaws treated during the year:—

Cases of yaws treated in 1935	...	...	8,222
Cases of yaws treated in 1936	...	...	5,711

The travelling dispensaries which visit the rural areas afford full facilities for the treatment of this disease which occurs chiefly among the Malays. The treatment has been so successful that it has gained the confidence of the villagers. Few cases now remained untreated for long in the areas where there are Government hospitals and dispensaries.

(v).—BUILDINGS

No building operations of any magnitude were undertaken for the Medical Department at Singapore.

At Penang the old first class and second class wards were reconstructed and are now incorporated in the new General Hospital.

A new camp was erected at Pulau Jerejak Leper Settlement.

B.—HOSPITALS, ETC.

(i).—HOSPITALS

The total number of inpatients treated in the hospitals of the Colony was 72,135 as compared with 72,222 in the preceding year. The malaria admissions accounted for 9,502, those for the preceding year were 12,478.

Admissions for venereal disease totalled 2,595 with 109 deaths, as against 3,020 with 156 deaths in the previous year.

Admissions for tuberculosis increased to 2,876 with 1,108 deaths as compared with 2,447 admissions and 868 deaths in 1935.

There were one thousand six hundred and eighty-four admissions for pneumonia with 974 deaths as against 1,672 admissions with 934 deaths in the previous year.

(ii).—DISPENSARIES

The number of out-patients treated at Government dispensaries and the number of attendances were as follows:—

	1935	*1936*
Number of out-patients ...	215,406	184,298
Number of attendances ...	435,514	434,770

Digitized by Google

There was an increase in the number of attendances at the Women's and Children's Out-door Dispensary at Kandang Kerbau, Singapore, the figures being 45,404 in 1935, and 59,183 in 1936.

The attendances at the Women's and Children's Dispensary in Penang, were :—

	1935	*1936*
Attendances	21,728	25,415

At the Women's and Children's Out-door Dispensary at Malacca, 13,529 attended during 1936, compared with 13,706 in 1935, whilst at Merlimau and Masjid Tanah, the numbers totalled 1,233 and 864 for the period under review, compared with 2,207 and 1,582 for 1935, respectively.

(iii).—Motor Travelling Dispensaries

There are up-to-date motor travelling dispensaries in Singapore, Penang, Malacca and Province Wellesley.

Men, women and children of all nationalities who are suffering from minor ailments and who reside in the outlying districts of each Settlement, obtain treatment from these dispensaries.

The attendances for the whole Colony totalled :—

1936	107,896	attendances
1935	111,498	,,

(iv).—Leper Settlements

Pulau Jerejak Settlement.—Up-to-date treatment for leprosy is given with encouraging results to early cases. The treatment is available for all who need it.

Its success is evidenced by the fact that 22 cases have been discharged as non-infective during the year under review; the numbers of cases so discharged for the years 1933, 1934 and 1935, were 45, 30 and 56, respectively. Every encouragement is given to the inmates to work in the settlement, and those who are quite strong are generally employed as artisans, woodcutters, dhobies, etc. Those who are educated, are given employment as teachers, dressers and overseers. There are quite a number who do carpentry, vegetable and fruit gardening and some fishing and poultry farming.

The good standard of education provided by both the English school and the Chinese school, has been maintained. Several successful performances were given by the dramatic troupes of the settlement. There are 43 Boy Scouts; drills have been carried out regularly during the year under review. The Scouts also take part in outdoor sports. The brass band continues to be popular and has given much pleasure to the inmates.

Singapore Settlement.—The settlement at Singapore has accommodation for male and female lepers, but male patients are transferred to Pulau Jerejak as early as possible. The method of treatment was the same as in previous years except that a greater number of patients received injections of non-iodised ethyl esters. An investigation is being carried out on the subject of infection by yaws and treatment by yaws therapy and at the end of the period under review 42 cases were being treated. At all religious and national festivals the inmates were entertained with a special dietary while amusements were provided from donations by various individuals and religious sects.

A "lepers aid fund" was initiated towards the close of the year.

Digitized by Google

(v).—Mental Hospital

One thousand three hundred and ninety-seven patients remained in hospital at the beginning of the year; the admissions numbered 619 in 1936. Discharges, deaths and abscondings totalled 607. The number of patients remaining at the end of 1936 was 1,409. The admissions showed an increase of 22 over those for 1935. The recovery rate was 44·10% of the admissions.

C.—HEALTH AND SANITATION

(i)—Quarantine

Eight hundred and eighty-five visits in Singapore and 536 visits in Penang (as against 756 and 423 respectively in 1935) were paid to ships by Port Health Officers. Four hundred and twenty-eight thousand one hundred and ninety-four persons were examined during the year as compared with 415,540 in 1935.

Twenty-seven thousand nine hundred and eighteen persons were detained under observation in the Quarantine Stations at Singapore and Penang.

The number of persons from ships treated for infectious diseases at Singapore Quarantine Station was 1 for small-pox. At the Penang Quarantine Station 1 was treated for small-pox and 1 for cholera.

The Port Health work of Malacca is carried out by the Health Officer and Deputy Health Officer. Two hundred and two vessels visited Malacca during 1936 and 24 of these were inspected.

(ii).—Rural Conservancy

Singapore.—In all areas a system of nightsoil removal by contract is carried out. Bored-hole latrines are constructed where sites are suitable. A total of 365 bored-hole latrines were constructed during the year. It is hoped to proceed rapidly with these structures as they are more satisfactory in every way for the majority of the rural dwellers than any other type of latrine.

In the more populous areas the bucket latrine system is most common. There are 4,867 houses on the nightsoil removal list. The nightsoil is collected and carried to trenching grounds where it is properly trenched under the supervision of Sanitary Inspectors.

In addition to the bucket system there are houses equipped with the water borne sewage systems. The method of disposal is by septic tank installations. There are 61 of these disposal plants in the Rural Area.

Every householder is required to have a sanitary dust bin. The contents of these bins are removed every morning by handcarts. At the roadside collection stations there are large iron dust bins wherein all domestic and street refuse is deposited. The removal from these stations is carried out by motor lorries. There are 26 small type slow combustion incinerators in use and 4 "controlled tipping" grounds.

Penang.—Pail latrines are obligatory in places where buildings are close together; elsewhere in villages and throughout the rural area bored-hole latrines or corresponding types of sanitary conveniences are provided by the responsible occupier. Throughout the residential area of Penang Hill and in a number of residences along the coast road, water carriage and septic tank systems are installed.

Digitized by Google

During the year 900 latrines have been constructed or reconditioned. Insanitary latrines to the number of 138 have been demolished. Three hundred and sixty-eight bored-hole latrines have been constructed and 363 pit latrines have been dug.

There are 41 village incinerators within gazetted areas and 3 on Penang Hill most of which have given good service throughout the year. Domestic refuse together with road sweepings is collected in refuse bins placed on concrete platforms along the roadside and disposed of either by incineration in the village incinerators or by "controlled tipping".

Malacca.—Sewage disposal in the rural area is carried out by direct Chinese labour. In most villages the nightsoil is disposed of by trenching or by dumping in bore-holes, or deep covered pits, but two villages (Jasin and Sungei Rambei) have septic tanks for the disposal of nightsoil.

South Indian coolies under the control of the Health Officer are employed for the disposal of refuse. The rubbish is disposed of by incineration and new Horsfall incinerators with large concrete sorting platforms partially covered by asbestos roofing were installed during the year.

Labuan.—The collection of nightsoil is done by coolies and disposal is by dumping. The total number of pails on the removal list was 343. Trenching is so far very satisfactory.

(iii).—Anti-Malarial Work

The protection of the population from malaria in towns and villages of the Straits Settlements is an important duty of the Government and Municipal Health Authorities in their respective areas.

The total expenditure by Government on anti-malarial measures undertaken in the rural areas during the year was $170,965.11.

The establishment of anti-mosquito and malaria protection zones in the rural areas continues to be a major undertaking for the Government Health Department. The extension of the areas occupied by the Naval, Military and Royal Air Forces in Singapore and increase greater private building activity in the rural areas of Singapore and Penang has necessitated an increase in malaria protection zones.

The problem of malaria in the rural areas is rendered difficult by the widespread distribution of breeding places or *Anopheles maculatus*. Measures are directed against the larval stage of the mosquito, this work is associated also with general sanitary measures and, in some selected areas, with drug prophylaxis.

The practice of anti-larval control consists of applying larvicide to all the breeding places of dangerous mosquitoes within the protection zones; permanent protection works such as drainage and earth filling are then taken in hand so as to replace by gradual degrees such anti-malarial measures as are lacking in permanence and reliability.

Considerable work has been carried out in connection with the sluicing of ravines and streams. Automatic sluices have been designed and constructed and experiments conducted up-to-date have indicated that this is a very useful addition to existing methods for anti-larval control.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER V

Housing

In the principal towns of the Colony the various types of houses may be classified as follows:—

(*a*) Houses with gardens occupied by the well-to-do residents.
(*b*) Semi-detached houses or small bungalows occupied by less prosperous, or the less well-paid of the salary classes.
(*c*) Terrace houses for clerks and people of similar standing.
(*d*) Shop-houses.
(*e*) Common lodging houses, which are frequently over-crowded.
(*f*) Tenements in closely built areas, and
(*g*) Wood-huts or semi-permanent houses in the out-skirts of the city.

The houses in the first category, occupied by the European residents and the wealthier Asiatics, vary greatly in type from the old Colonial style mostly built of wood, with its wide open verandas and large rooms to the more modern types built substantially of brick or concrete and designed for economical household management. The small semi-detached houses and bungalows generally differ from the houses of the wealthier only in size, and nearly all in Singapore, at least have the advantages of modern lighting and sanitation. In Singapore, flats are becoming increasingly popular with both the above section of the community and the considerable increase that has taken place in the garrison is likely to encourage this development. The terrace houses occupied by the clerical classes are necessarily humbler in character than the "compound" and semi-detached houses. Even these, however, afford good accommodation, are well ventilated and in some areas in the larger towns at least have modern sanitation as well as lighting.

Shop-houses in the older parts of the towns are generally built in rows, of solid construction and two or more stories in height, but too frequently they are insufficiently ventilated and for many streets no back lanes are provided. Poor ventilation, of course, conduces to the spread of tuberculosis and the absence of back-lanes interferes with proper sanitation. The upper stories of many of these houses are divided into small cubicles with temporary partitions, erected without regard to the need of light and air, and it is in these that the worst overcrowding is found. Unfortunately too many of the labouring and artisan classes find their homes in such cubicles or in the common lodging houses of the most densely populated areas, which frequently consist of just an overcrowded dormitory above a shop or store.

With such conditions prevailing it is not surprising that tuberculosis is prevalent in urban areas or that the infantile death-rate is still high; but social workers and others who have studied the problem of slum-clearance and re-housing in the larger seaport towns at home will appreciate the extra difficulties that attend its solution in a country where the main areas affected are occupied by a transient Asiatic population inured for generations to a standard of living compared with which their present circumstances give little cause for complaint. The Government, however, and the educated elements of the populations, European and Asiatic, are fully alive to the needs of the situation, and the first steps have already been taken to deal with the re-housing of the poorer classes of the population in Singapore, Penang and Malacca, the three principal towns of the Colony.

Digitized by Google

In Singapore, such measures fall within the scope of operations of the Singapore Improvement Trust, a body especially incorporated for the purpose by an Ordinance passed in 1927.

The Improvement Trust has adopted a fixed programme for the driving of back-lanes through congested areas, and expects that action will have been completed in all the worst areas within the next two or three years. It had already acquired several large blocks of slum-property before the end of 1934, and had demolished them for reconstruction or the establishment of open spaces. Further, about fifty acres of waste land at Tiong Bharu, adjoining a particularly crowded Chinese area, had been bought, filled in, provided with roads, and laid out in building lots for sale, with a view to relieving the prevailing congestion. During the year under review progress was steadily maintained. Fourteen new back-lanes were completed, enabling 220 more houses to be connected to the Municipal sewers, 36 houses of unsatisfactory design were bought and 31 were demolished. Eleven contracts for reconstruction of rear portions of houses affected by back-lanes were let out in 1936, and eight plans for back-lanes were submitted to Government for approval. During the year a block of 32 flats and 5 shops of modern design were completed and occupied at Tiong Bahru, and work was commenced on a further block of 18 flats and 2 shops in the same area. The Trust also commenced the erection of 54 more artisans' quarters at Balestier Road. No less than 149 layouts for the development of private property on modern and sanitary lines were considered and approved, and a number of blocks of old property in the town were inspected and new layouts prepared with a view to action under the Singapore Improvement Ordinance. Unfortunately, a legal dispute has arisen in regard to the Trust's powers to deal with major schemes of slum clearance and this has led to some delay in the execution of these schemes. A Committee has been appointed to go into the question of clarifying the law and is now sitting.

In Penang and Malacca, where the problems to be met and solved are neither so great nor so pressing as those of Singapore, all measures of town-improvement are undertaken by the Municipal Commissioners under the provisions of the Municipal Ordinance and, while development has not been possible on the same scale as the work undertaken by the Improvement Trust in Singapore, a great deal has been accomplished during the last ten years and the work is still progressing. The Health Department freely uses its powers to enforce the demolition of insanitary dwellings, and strict control of common lodging houses is maintained to prevent over-crowding and preserve a decent standard of sanitation. During the year two special schemes of slum-clearance in the most congested area in Penang, were successfully carried through at a cost of $240,000.

In rural districts though brick shop-houses with tiled roofs are found in the larger villages, the houses are generally of old Malay or Chinese types, built of planks with roofs of attap, a very efficient native type of thatching with dried palm fronds. The wood and attap houses are usually owned by the occupiers, and as a general rule are clean and well-ventilated, besides being admirably suited to the climate and cool and comfortable to live in. Those of the Malay small-holder or peasant are raised about four to six feet above the ground level, and are especially well-ventilated, cool and comfortable. The brick-and-tile shop-houses in the villages, like those in the towns, lend themselves to overcrowding, but the evils are less pronounced in rural areas. Planning schemes have been evolved for most gazetted villages, demolition notices are enforced against insanitary buildings whenever necessary, and the work of providing all dwellings with

Digitized by Google

sanitary latrines is proceeding rapidly. For all new buildings, in Municipal and Rural Board areas, strict compliance with the building by-laws is now enforced, although it is impossible, and indeed unnecessary, to insist on the standards devised for the wealthier municipal areas in the rural areas where expense is a much greater consideration. There are no building societies in the Straits Settlements.

Labourers on rubber estates are usually housed in barracks consisting of single rooms with kitchens attached. Nearly all of these buildings conform to an approved standard design and frequent inspections by the health authorities and the officers of the Labour Department, prevent overcrowding and ensure decent upkeep and cleanliness.

CHAPTER VI

A.—AGRICULTURE

General

The principal crops grown in the Colony are rubber, coconuts, rice and pineapples; the areas cultivated thereunder in each Settlement during the year were as follows:—

Crop.	*Province Wellesley and Penang*	*Malacca*	*Singapore*	*Total Straits Settlement*
	(*acres*)	(*acres*)	(*acres*)	(*acres*)
Rubber ...	84,977	189,661	54,073	328,711
Coconuts ...	46,831	13,498	8,360	68,689
Rice ...	35,700	32,050	nil	67,750
Pineapples ...	559	542	5,250	6,351

Crops of secondary importance are fruits, vegetables, arecanuts, tobacco, derris, spices, coffee and tapioca. Only rubber and coconuts are grown by Europeans and Asiatics on a large scale, and also by Asiatics on small holdings.

(i).—Crops grown by Europeans and Asiatics

Rubber.—The total area under rubber in the Straits Settlements at the end of 1936 was estimated to be 328,711 acres, distributed as follows:—

Settlement	*Estates of 100 acres and over*	*Small-holdings of less than 100 acres*	*Total*
	(*acres*)	(*acres*)	(*acres*)
P.W. and Penang ...	48,157	36,820	84,977
Malacca	123,466	66,195	189,661
Singapore	33,482	20,591	54,073
Total ...	205,105	123,606*	328,711

Of the area cultivated on estates 128,470 acres were grown on European-owned estates and 76,635 acres on Asiatic-owned estates.

The average price per pound of standard smoked sheet in Singapore for the year was 27.04 cents, as compared with 20.25 cents in 1935. The price rose steadily from 22⅜ cents at the beginning of the year to 26 1/16

* Figures for small holdings are as at the end of 1935, adjusted to include 1936 replantings.

Digitized by Google

cents in the middle of the year. Prices then remained fairly steady until October when there was a gradual rise to 28 11/16. In November and December there was a further improvement in prices, culminating at the end of the year with a sharp rise to 39 5/8 cents per pound.

The International Rubber Regulation continued in force throughout the year. Under this Agreement Malaya received a quota of 569,000 tons. The international quota release for the first two quarters of the year was 60 per cent., and for the third and fourth quarters 65 per cent., and the domestic release was the same. The total permissible export for the year was thus 355,625 tons. The share of Malaya's quota allotted to the Straits Settlements by the Controller of Rubber was 50,800 tons. The declared production of rubber for the Colony was 31,929 tons, of which 19,397 tons were produced on large estates and 12,532 tons from small holdings. The greater part of the crop was produced in the form of standard smoked sheet, but there was also an appreciable export of rubber in the form of latex; the quantity exported in this form from Malaya was estimated to amount to 16,937 tons on the basis of dry rubber content.

Replanting on estates almost invariably is carried out with budded stock. The total area of budded rubber in the Colony is now 3,833 acres, of which 403 acres were budded in the year under review.

The regulation scheme worked effectively throughout the year.

In spite of the low percentage of the quota allowed, the improved price of rubber enabled most estates to produce at a profit, in addition to which many estates were able to finance from profits improvements which had been postponed during the period of low prices before the introduction of the present rubber regulation scheme.

The general maintenance and management of small holdings shewed some improvement and there was considerable improvement in the preparation of the product. These improvements have been made possible by the work of the Asiatic Rubber Instructors who are trained firstly in the School of Agriculture, Malaya, and then at the Rubber Research Institute.

A small cheaply erected smoke cabinet for small-holders' use was designed by the Rubber Research Institute, being an improved edition of one found in actual use by a small-holder in Perak. It has been demonstrated that these cabinets are capable of turning out smoked sheet up to European standard and small-holders experience no difficulty in working them. Their general adoption at present is limited owing to marketing difficulties, as in many localities the difference in price between smoked and unsmoked sheet offered by local dealers is too small to make smoking by the small-holder economically advantageous to him. A difference of at least $1 a picul is required to make it profitable for a small-holder to smoke his own rubber in areas where he has little opportunity to find outside employment: where outside employment is available at market rates more than $1 difference is required to make the smoking of his rubber profitable.

Diseases of the rubber tree on small holdings gave no cause for alarm. Wherever such diseases caused anxiety, special demonstrations and instructions were instituted which, coupled with the sale of efficient fungicide at cost price, led to an improvement.

There was an increase in the amount of attention shown by estates to manuring. Manuring is being done in nearly all cases of replanting. Interest has been shown on estates in cover plants, both cultivated leguminous and "natural" types. The value of covers in old rubber is

Digitized by Google

now fully appreciated as is also the necessity of supplementing them with manures.

The area out of tapping on estates in the Straits Settlements at the end of the year was 29·4 per cent., as compared with 27·7 per cent. at the end of the year 1935. On small holdings, however, the area out of tapping decreased from 28 to 18 per cent.

Coconuts and Coconut Products.—The total area under coconut is estimated to be 72,130 acres, of which 46,831 acres are in Province Wellesley and Penang, 13,498 acres in Malacca, 8,360 acres in Singapore, 3,422 acres in Labuan and 19 acres in Christmas Island. Of the total area, about 18,000 acres are contained on estates of over 100 acres each.

The crop from estates is almost entirely used for the preparation of copra. On small holdings, however, the disposal of the crop varies in different districts. Large quantities of nuts are consumed in the fresh state by the owners and for local sale. In parts of Province Wellesley most of the crop is exported as fresh nuts to Burma; exports from the Colony in 1936 amounted to 11,415,800 nuts. In other parts of the Province copra manufacture is usual. In Malacca, copra making remains of secondary importance as nuts can be sold at a high price for consumption as food. In Singapore, too, there is a ready market for fresh nuts, although in some areas copra kilns were in operation throughout the year. The palms in Singapore are mostly very old, in consequence of which yields are stated to be steadily decreasing.

Efforts have been made to improve the quality of copra produced in Province Wellesley and Penang. Owing to the disruption of the copra trade in this area by reason of the export of fresh nuts, little headway has been made. In Malacca an effort has been made to devise a workable scheme whereby Malays can market their nuts collectively in inland districts when prices are good.

Serious outbreaks of frond-eating caterpillars mostly of the moth *Chalcoscelis* occurred in Province Wellesley during the early part of the year, but were brought under control. No other serious outbreaks of pests occurred during the year.

The amount of the annual crop of coconuts is unknown. In view of the large local consumption, the only indication of production is by examination of export figures.

The seasonal drop in crop which normally occurs in August and September was unusually marked and prolonged in all coconut areas, and production had not returned to normal by the end of the year. The decreased yield was the more noticeable as it coincided with a greatly increased demand for copra and consequently a rise in price.

A feature of the industry is the continued growth of the trade in preparing and exporting coconut oil. There are several oil mills in the Colony, which use imported copra as well as the local product for this purpose. The Malayan net exports of oil in 1936 were 46,507 tons as compared with 35,910 in the previous year, and 12,000 tons in 1932. Consequent upon the development of this industry the exports of "poonac" (coconut cake) have steadily increased from 8,145 tons in 1932 to 20,438 tons in 1936. As is to be expected, under these circumstances, the net exports of copra have declined, and in 1936 amounted to 76,681 tons as compared with 111,753 tons in the previous year and 97,277 tons in 1932.

The price of copra improved early in the year, but was not maintained. In June a gradual improvement commenced, culminating in a sharp rise in

Digitized by Google

November and December. The average price in Singapore of sun-dried copra was $5.81 per picul, the "mixed" quality being 43 cents lower. Corresponding prices in 1935 were $4.54 with the "mixed" 39 cents lower. Coconut oil realized an average price of $11.96 per picul, as compared with $9.13 in 1935 and $5.96 in 1934.

The improved price of copra enabled more attention to be given to cultural conditions on estates. Particular interest was shown in the question of water movement in relation to crop yields. The study of the question of copra preparation which has engaged the attention of the officers of the Department of Agriculture and has been closely followed by managers of coconut estates has borne results as is seen by the improvement in the quality of estate copra which has been reflected in prices realized, as compared with standard quotations.

A proposal for introducing legislation to effect the grading of copra under a "Malayan Mark" scheme was discussed, but failed to obtain sufficient support amongst interested parties to render its introduction advisable.

Coffee.—Coffee is grown to a small extent on estates and small holdings in Malacca. The produce is sold for local consumption.

(ii).—Crops grown exclusively by Asiatics

Rice.—The cultivation of rice is the most important of the crops grown exclusively by Asiatics, most of whom are Malays. The main centres of cultivation are on the coastal alluvial lands in Province Wellesley and Malacca, and the shallow valleys in the inland districts of Malacca and Penang Island.

The area planted with rice in the Straits Settlements in the season 1935–36, and the yields were as follows:—

Territory	Wet		Dry		Total	
	Acres	Gantangs	Acres	Gantangs	Acres	Gantangs
Province Wellesley	31,240	10,409,000	450	193,000	31,690	10,602,000
Malacca ..	32,050	12,778,000	..	..	32,050	12,778,000
Penang ..	4,010	1,807,000	..	..	4,010	1,807,000
Total ..	67,300	24,994,000	450	193,000	67,750	25,187,000

The total area planted was 750 acres less than in the previous season, while the total crop harvested was down by 4,109,000 gantangs.*

Two systems of padi cultivation—the wet and the dry—are in vogue in Malaya; the latter system in which the seed is sown on dry land, is relatively unimportant. Under the wet system, the seed is sown in a nursery and later transplanted in inundated fields where the soil has been prepared by puddling. The crop may take about six months to reach maturity, but only one crop a year is removed from the land.

* A gantang is an Imperial gallon. About 700 gantangs of padi (rice in the husk) will produce 1 ton of cleaned rice.

Digitized by Google

Extremely wet weather during the growing period in the Province resulted in a decreased yield compared with the previous season. In parts of Malacca floods were responsible for a large reduction in yield. Yields on the whole, however, were considered satisfactory, the mean yield for the Colony being 372 gantangs per acre.

The wholesale price of rice appreciated considerably in 1935 and prices were well maintained in 1936 at the higher level. The average prices per picul of the three principal grades of imported rice were:—Siam No. 2, $3.86, Rangoon No. 1, $3.44, Saigon No. 1, $3.59. The average wholesale price was $3.63 per picul which was 3 per cent. less than that recorded in 1935.

Manurial and cultural experiments were continued by the Department of Agriculture, and a number of Padi Test Stations maintained for proving the worth of improved varieties of rice when grown under varying local conditions. The demand for pure-strain seed in Malacca exceeded the supply available at the Padi Station of Pulau Gadong.

Rats proved the most serious pest during the growing season; they were kept under control in Malacca and the Province by rat control organisations.

Pineapples.—Pineapple canning is an important industry in Singapore. Some fruit for canning is grown on Singapore Island, but the major portion is obtained from south Johore. Smaller areas exist in Malacca and Penang, the fruit being sold for local consumption in a fresh state.

The total area in Singapore cultivated with pineapple during 1936 was 5,250 acres, 3,000 acres of which were planted as a sole crop, and 2,250 acres interplanted in mixed cultivation; the planted area showed a decrease of 1,750 acres as compared with the previous year. Several areas which had been cropped with pineapples for a number of years were cleared of this crop and planted with vegetables and derris, as the land had become unproductive under continuous cropping with pineapples. Whereas the area decreased in Singapore, there is a considerable increase in the area under this crop in Johore so that there is no fear of a shortage of fruit for the Singapore factories.

There were four pineapple factories in operation in Singapore, three of which were reconstructed and continued canning operations throughout the two main fruiting seasons of the year. The factories were re-built to meet the specifications laid down under the Pineapple Industry Ordinance, 1934, under which legislation insanitary factories are refused registration. In consequence of reconstruction and close supervision, a considerable improvement took place in factory conditions.

Nearly two and a half million cases of pineapples were exported from Malaya in 1936, most of which was canned in Singapore and Johore, and shipped from Singapore.

The Pineapple Experiment Station at Lim Chu Kang, Singapore, was maintained and carried out experiments which indicate that if pineapples are to be grown profitably as a sole crop, manuring must probably be on a fairly generous scale and planting distances must be very much closer than those normally used in Malayan practice, with the object both of obtaining heavier crops per acre and minimising the loss of fertility from exposure and erosion.

A special Canning Officer of the Department of Agriculture was appointed early in 1936 and has initiated investigations on several problems.

Digitized by Google

The average Singapore prices per case of 48 cans of 1½ lb. each of Malayan pineapples were as follows:—

Year	Cubes	Sliced flat	Sliced tall	Fresh fruit per 100	
				First quality	Second quality
	$	$	$		
1934	3·10	3·01	3·19	2·52	1·38
1935	3·47	3·27	3·51	3·25	2·52
1936	3·29	3·09	3·29	3·29	2·78

Fruits.—The area under fruits increased, particularly on Singapore Island and in Malacca, and greater attention was given to the selection of good stock for planting. The range of fruits cultivated is extensive and includes mangosteens, pulasans, rambutans, bananas, durians, papaya, chikus, belimbings and langsats. Usually individual holdings are small, but there are a number of extensive fruit orchards owned by Chinese in Penang Island and Malacca. Local supplies of fruit are insufficient to satisfy the demand and large quantities of fruits are imported.

Apart from pineapples, it is estimated that there are 9,048 acres planted with fruit trees in the Colony.

The fruit season generally was poor in all parts of the country. In Singapore, poor crops of durians, rambutans, mangosteen and pulasan were harvested in the main season in June and further poor crops in the secondary season during November. As a result of this shortage prices of Penang rambutans and Johore durians were very high. Small off-season crops of durian, rambutan, mangosteen and langsat were harvested in Penang during January and obtained good prices; although the main season was poor, a few rambutan orchards gave heavy yields. Malacca dukus are famed throughout the country; in 1936 they failed to fruit.

Vegetables.—Market gardens cultivated by Chinese are found near all centres of population. It is estimated that there are over 3,000 acres on Singapore Island, and almost as much in Malacca, the total area in the Colony being 6,249 acres. The quantity of vegetables produced is unknown, but certainly exceeds 10,000 tons during the year.

Tobacco.—The cultivation of tobacco is of importance, especially to the Chinese market gardeners. The planted area at the end of 1936 was 448 acres. The area decreased in Singapore owing to the difficulty of obtaining fresh land suitable for the crop. Malacca has 322 acres, and a further increase in area is anticipated as prices are good. There are three Chinese factories in Malacca working at full capacity making cigars, cheroots and cut tobacco. Local sales are good and there is a large export to Singapore and Penang. Production in Penang is steady, most of the leaf being used locally for cigar wrappers. The leaf from Province Wellesley Central, however, is used as a filler for cigars.

No high-grade or "bright" tobacco is produced in Malaya, the present production being confined to supplying the local demand for a very cheap smoke.

Derris (Tuba Root).—The cultivation of derris occupied an increasingly important position on Singapore Island during 1936. The area extended

Digitized by Google

from 750 acres in 1935 to 1350 acres in 1936. Malayan production, as judged by exports, was nearly 600 tons valued at nearly $500,000.

The investigations of the Department of Agriculture have made this product well known in other countries and there has been a steady demand for supplies of selected planting material.

The average price of the dried root was $48.58 per picul when sold on the basis of rotenone content and $31.54 when sold on the ether extract basis. These prices were of the same order as those ruling in the previous year. Higher prices were paid for dried root of Changi (Singapore) being $85 per picul for selected root and $75 for the mixed quality.

Cloves.—Cloves are cultivated by Chinese in the Settlement of Penang, where there are 367 acres. Harvesting of the 1935–36 crop was completed in February and was up to average in quality for the early plucking, and high in quality towards the end of the season. A small off-season crop was collected in August, but the prospects of the next crop are said to be poor.

(iii).—Livestock

The Colony, unfortunately, depends largely on foreign sources for its supply of livestock for slaughter, and for its requirements in the way of animal products, such as milk, butter, eggs and so forth. An endeavour, however, is being made to increase the proportion obtained from local sources and the neighbouring Malay States.

In Malacca two new areas have been set aside for buffalo grazing, and legislation has been introduced prohibiting the slaughter of female buffalo. Livestock shows have been introduced to impress upon the farmers the value of their animals.

Province Wellesley and Malacca can now easily supply all their own requirements in swine and both Settlements even supply a few pigs to abattoirs in neighbouring States. The production of goats is still far below requirements but is improving.

The Municipal Abattoirs (in Singapore and Penang) provide a very essential and efficient service, the animals being humanely handled and only meat fit for human consumption passed. Unfortunately, however, in all Settlements there are private slaughter houses over which there is little or no supervision.

Dairies are principally owned and run by Northern Indians. The type of dairy animal used is frequently unsatisfactory, and the conditions under which the milk is produced and distributed leave a great deal to be desired. In Singapore, however, there are two dairy farms, the Singapore Dairy Farm and Malayan Farms Ltd., both under European management, which supply first-class produce. At the two farms upwards of 200 imported European cows are milked and at the same time numbers of dry cows, bulls, and calves are kept. All fresh fodder is produced on the farms and other foods are imported from Europe, Australia and the United States of America. Altogether there are about 60 acres of land in grass yielding on an average 28 tons per acre of cut grass. The dairy cattle include Ayrshire, Guernsey, Jersey, Illawarras and Friesians. At one farm the milking is done by hand, and at the other, by machine. All operations are under the closest European supervision and the milk produced is of high quality and meets all requirements of the health authorities.

Poultry farming in all Settlements is carried out more or less haphazardly as a side-line to other occupations. The local production of poultry and eggs for food is on a far greater scale than is commonly realized,

Digitized by Google

but there is reason to believe that so long as poultry and eggs can be easily imported, the local production will remain more or less stationary.

The outbreak of Goat Pox in Province Wellesley that started in 1935 was finally stamped out early in the year. No other serious mammalian diseases occurred in 1936 but several outbreaks of poultry disease were reported and dealt with.

The following table gives the census of livestock in Singapore, Penang and Province Wellesley, and Malacca:—

	Cattle	*Buffaloes*	*Sheep*	*Goats*	*Swine*
Singapore	4,196	777	3,000	3,461	127,468
Penang and P. Wellesley	9,419	5,983	—	12,682	48,179
Malacca	6,047	12,073	67	16,683	24,742
Total ...	19,662	18,833	3,067	32,826	200,389

The following table gives the imports and exports of livestock during the year:—

IMPORTS OF LIVESTOCK

	Oxen	*Buffaloes*	*Sheep*	*Goats*	*Swine*
Singapore ...	15,640	—	44,222	2,969	123,025
Penang ...	2,175	1,542	9,223	5,082	929
Malacca ...	242	13	318	19	576
Total ...	18,057	1,555	53,763	8,070	124,530

EXPORTS OF LIVESTOCK

	Oxen	*Buffaloes*	*Sheep*	*Goats*	*Swine*
Singapore ...	1,914	—	4,957	153	3,194
Penang ...	36	40	1,810	838	940
Malacca ...	211	227	—	151	1,655
Total ...	2,161	267	6,767	1,142	5,789

(iv).—AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTION

The School of Agriculture, Malaya, situated at Serdang, and supported jointly by the Federated Malay States and the Straits Settlements Governments continued to operate very successfully. The school year opened in May, 1936, with a full complement of 80 boys. Of the forty-six students who left school in April thirty-four have obtained employment either in the Government service, the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya or in private companies. Training at the school followed the same lines as in previous years.

Three major and three minor scholarships tenable for two years and one year respectively were again awarded this year. The major scholarships were all gained by Chinese and the minor scholarships by Malays. The Edwin Phillip Scholarship, for which there were seven candidates was won by a Straits Chinese.

The Farm School situated at Sungei Udang Agricultural Station, Malacca, completed the first year of operation in November. Twenty-two boys entered for the final examination. The new school year opened on December 21st with a full complement of twenty-five boys, ten of whom

Digitized by Google

received a scholarship which entitles them to free tuition. The course has been divided into two terms instead of three, as for various reasons this appeared to be more suitable.

During the year 137 schools maintained gardens. These were periodically inspected by Asiatic Officers of the Department and assistance was given by both Asiatic and Agricultural Officers in judging and awarding the annual prizes or shields provided for the purpose.

The Rural Lecture Caravan made tours in the Settlements of Penang and Malacca during the year.

The Thirteenth Annual Malayan Exhibition was held in Kuala Lumpur from August 1st to 3rd and Agricultural Shows were held at Bukit Mertajam, and Sungei Bakap in Province Wellesley and at Alor Gajah and Jasin in Malacca. An exhibition of agricultural products was again arranged for a tourist ship which called at Malacca during March.

(v).—Methods and Conditions of Recruiting South Indian Labour

The elaborate machinery which exists for the recruitment, in normal times, of South Indian labourers, required for work on rubber, coconut and oil-palm estates, is utilised also to supply labour required for the Railways, the Municipalities and such Government Departments as the Public Works Department.

The recruiting of labourers in South India is conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, and the Rules made thereunder. There are special provisions in the Indian Act for the recruitment of labourers for skilled work, but the recruiting of skilled labourers in British India for work in Malaya is practically non-existent.

The basis of the system of recruiting unskilled South Indian labourers is the Indian Immigration Fund. This Fund is maintained by contributions from all employers of South Indian labourers including the several Governments of Malaya. It forms no part of the general revenue of the Government and may be spent only for the purpose of assisting immigration or on measures designed for the welfare and protection of South Indian labourers, such as the maintenance of "choultries" (free lodging houses) and a home for decrepit Indian labourers, the repatriation of labourers to India and the assistance of those in need of relief. During the lean years from 1930 to 1933 the resources of the Fund were extensively used for the repatriation of labourers wishing to return to India.

From the Fund are paid the general expenses of recruiting, the principal items being (*a*) cost of the train fares of recruited emigrants from their homes to the Depôts at Negapatam and Avadi, (*b*) care and feeding of all assisted emigrants in the Emigration Depôts at Negapatam and Avadi while awaiting shipment, (*c*) steamer passages (from Madras or Negapatam) to the Straits, (*d*) expenses of quarantine on arrival at Penang and Port Swettenham, (*e*) transport from ports of disembarkation to places of employment in Malaya and (*f*) payment of recruiting allowances to employers by whose agents the emigrants have been recruited.

Recruiting agents, known as kanganies, are sent over by individual employers to recruit for their particular places of employment and receive remuneration in the form of commission from these employers. A "recruiting allowance" is paid to the employer in re-imbursement of this expenditure and other incidental costs not met from the Fund.

Digitized by Google

The kangany or agent who recruits must fulfil the following conditions before he can obtain a licence :—

(i) he must be a South Indian of the labouring classes.

(ii) he must have been employed as a labourer for a period of not less than three months on the place of employment for which he intends to recruit.

Licences are issued by the Deputy Controller of Labour in Penang and are endorsed by the Agent of the Government of India. The number of labourers each kangany is authorised to recruit is limited in the first instance to twenty and the maximum commission is limited to Rs. 10 for each labourer recruited.

On arrival in India the kangany takes his licence for registration to the Malayan Emigration Commissioner in Madras, an officer of the Malayan Civil Service appointed by the Malayan Governments with the approval of the Government of India, to supervise emigration to Malaya, or to the Assistant Emigration Commissioner in Negapatam. Only on endorsement by one of these officials does the licence become valid. The period of currency of the licence is usually six months and is limited, in any case, to one year.

After registration of his licence the kangany proceeds to the office of his employer's financial agents, where he obtains a small advance (usually about Rs. 20) before leaving for his own village to inform his friends and relations of the conditions of labour on his estate.

When the kangany finds people willing to emigrate he must supply them with a copy of the official pamphlet giving information about Malaya and must obtain their receipt for it. He must then produce them before the Village Headman whose duty it is to satisfy himself that there is no valid objection to their emigration. If so satisfied, the Village Headman initials the entry of the intending emigrant's name on the back of the licence. When the kangany has collected a number of intending emigrants and obtained the necessary authorisation from the Village Headman, he takes them to the Emigration Depôt at or near the port of embarkation, *i.e.*, Avadi or Negapatam, either himself prepaying the train fare, which he afterwards recovers, or getting the fares paid by one of the Recruiting Inspectors or Agents employed at the charge of the Fund. These two depôts are maintained by the Fund and intending emigrants are housed and fed in them, free of charge, until they embark for Malaya.

Before they are permitted to embark all emigrants are inspected by the officials of the Indian Government the Protector of Emigrants and the Medical Inspector.

After the emigrants are shipped the kangany receives his commission, less the amount of his advance from the financial agents unless he is himself returning to the Colony in which case he is paid the balance due to him on arrival at the estate.

The commission of Rs. 10 is sufficient to cover all legitimate charge and is purposely kept low to prevent the kangany from dealing with professional recruiters.

The recruiting allowance which the employer receives from the Fund has varied from $3 to $20 and is at present fixed at $10 for every female recruit or male recruit accompanied by his wife and $8 for every male recruit not accompanied by his wife. The amount of the allowance now fixed is designed to cover all legitimate out-of-pocket expenses leaving a margin just sufficient to induce employers to recruit up to their requirements.

Digitized by Google

Assisted emigration however is not confined to labourers recruited by kanganies for individual employers. An agricultural labourer who is physically fit can, on application to the Emigration Commissioner or his Assistant and on production, where necessary, of a certificate from his Village Headman, obtain a free passage to Malaya at the expense of the Fund, without incurring any obligation to labour for any particular employer on arrival.

The number of these non-recruited emigrants has been steadily increasing during recent years. They are usually labourers who have been in Malaya before and are returning to their old places of employment. As they are not recruited, neither kangany's commission nor recruiting allowance is payable on their account, but each receives a gift of $2 and a free railway ticket to his destination on discharge from the immigration depôts in Malaya. This gift of $2 is made to ensure that each labourer will not suffer from lack of food while seeking employment.

Assisted immigration from India was suspended in August 1930, but was resumed in May, 1934, since when recruiting licences have been issued only in a limited number of special cases, the great majority of assisted emigrants to Malaya being non-recruited labourers.

The Controller of Labour, Malaya, as *exofficio* Chairman of the Indian Immigration Committee which is partly composed of unofficials, administers the Indian Immigration Fund.

All labourers, whether recruited by kanganies or non-recruited, are landed in Malaya free of debt and any labourer may terminate his agreement with his employer by giving one month's notice of his intention to do so. There is no "contract" or indentured labour in the Colony.

There were 77 European-owned, and 263 Asiatic-owned estates in the Colony, employing 13,263 and 1,655 South Indian labourers respectively, on the 31st December, 1936.

B.—FORESTRY

No change was made in the organization of the department, the forests of Singapore remaining in charge of the Commissioner of Lands, whilst Malacca and the Northern Settlement were generally supervised by the State Forest Officers, Negri Sembilan and Perak North respectively. Full time executive control was exercised by the Forest Officer, Singapore, in connection with the saw-milling industry and by the Assistant Conservator at Jasin who is responsible for the forests of Malacca. Penang and Province Wellesley do not justify the full time services of a senior executive officer and are included in the territorial charge of the District Forest Officer, Matang (Perak).

Malayan exports of sawn timber and sleepers rose slightly in value from $469,462 to $482,102 of which $197,807 went to British territories and $284,295 to foreign countries. These figures suggest that the milling industry remained more or less stationary, but actually there was a large increase in turn over due to improved general conditions. Exports of graded timber to the United Kingdom showed satisfactory increases during the first half of the year, but in the second half they fell off badly, largely because of an increase in the ocean freight rates which placed Malayan timbers in a less favourable position *vis a vis* their rivals from Borneo and Philippine Islands. It is hoped that this difficulty will be overcome, for the export of graded material, though small in itself, has vastly improved the general standard of manufacture and opened the eyes of the millers and

Digitized by Google

consumers to the possibilities of local timbers. The total shipments to the United Kingdom alone rose from 19,707 to 25,230 cubic feet.

Imports of logs for sawing in the Singapore mills totalled 132,661 cubic feet against 129,353 in 1935. The proportion from the peninsula fell from 32 to 25 per cent., the actual figures being 32,957 cubic tons in 1936 and 41,286 in 1935.

A notable achievement was the supply of just under 34,000 cubic feet of blocks valued at nearly $84,000 for use in the new graving dock. Only local timbers were used and it can safely be said that, but for the Singapore forest organization, this order would have been placed outside the country at very much higher cost and corresponding loss to the Settlement. The Public Works Department now maintains a stock of sawn timber which is purchased regularly through the agency of the Forest Officer and properly seasoned before use. Altogether 120,233 cubic feet of timber were inspected by the Singapore forest staff during the year.

After further examination it was decided that the forests of Malacca are not yet ready for the establishment of the sawmill foreshadowed in last year's report and the project has been postponed in favour of a mill in a Negri Sembilan reserve, which will be conveniently situated for supplying the Settlement for some years to come.

The forest reserves of the Straits Settlements at present occupy 127 square miles or approximately 10 per cent. of the total land area. The Singapore reserves will shortly be revoked with the exception of certain small areas and the Bukit Timah reserve, which will be retained for the purposes of amenity and natural history.

Revenue increased from $34,595 in 1935, to $36,820 in 1936, the corresponding expenditure falling from $74,358 to $72,251.

The Federated Malay States organizations for forest research and education, forest engineering and marketing also serve the needs of the Colony. The main research organization deals with forest botany, oecology, silviculture, wood technology, timber testing and investigation of forest products generally, and a school for training forest subordinates is attached to it. The Forest Engineer is concerned with the improvement of methods of extraction, conversion and transport of timber and other forest produce. The Timber Purchase Section serves as an agency for direct purchases of timber on behalf of government departments, but with the appointment of a forest officer in Singapore it has been possible to put an increasing number of purchasers in direct touch with the mills and to simplify to some extent the transactions involved.

C.—FISHERIES

The supply of fresh fish for the Singapore market is mainly in the hands of Japanese fishermen who land approximately 50 per cent. of the supplies, while another 30 per cent. is taken in the waters of the Rhio Archipelago and imported on ice by local dealers. This dependence on foreign supplies cannot be regarded as altogether satisfactory. In order, therefore, to encourage the local fishing industry, an experimental vessel 85 feet long and 15 feet in beam, with Diesel engine and equipped with refrigeration plant, was purchased and fitted out in November, 1936. The purpose of this vessel is to work in conjunction with the local fishing fleets, to purchase their catches and convey them in a fresh form to the markets in the bigger towns. It is hoped that by demonstrating the utility of the vessel private enterprise will be induced to invest in similar vessels operating all round the coast of Malaya.

Digitized by Google

Before the end of the year the vessel had made two voyages to the important fishing grounds off Pangkor Island, Dindings. The fish selected for storage in the refrigerator was Kembong (Scomber), one of the most delicate and perishable of all our local fishes. Five and three quarter tons were purchased from the Chinese fishermen operating in the locality mentioned, stored in the refrigerator and brought down to the Singapore market for sale. The results of this vessel's work were on the whole very encouraging, the fish being well received by the public and commanding a fair price; but it is too early yet to say if the scheme is likely to achieve its purpose.

The experimental work in connection with methods of preservation of fish was continued. Much of the fish caught on the rich grounds off the East Coast is dried and salted. It is thus converted into a mere condiment of no value as an article of diet. With a view to altering this state of affairs, an experimental canning station has been erected near Kuantan in Pahang. Unfortunately, during 1936 the station could not be utilised to its full capacity, partly owing to staff difficulties, and partly owing to bad fishing weather which reduced the supplies of fish. Nevertheless, a thousand tins of Kembong and Selayang (Caranx) were successfully packed. These fish pack well and are a remarkably good food. The success of this station will be of much importance for the local fishing industry.

Experiments were also carried out on the artificial drying of fish as an alternative to the insanitary method of sun drying which is so common throughout the country. Certain fish dealers were invited to import wet and even maggoted fish for treatment in a drier and did so. The results were not convincing but an improved drier was later constructed which was more satisfactory. Efforts will be continued to encourage this method of drying which is definitely to the advantage of dealers and tends to reduce waste. A considerable amount of work has been done in connection with fresh water fisheries, the most interesting being an attempt to establish fish cultivation by Malays in a lake at Chin Chin, Malacca, on co-operative lines. They have been assisted in the preliminary labour of clearing the stumps from the lake to enable them to work nets and in stocking the lake with various kinds of fresh water food fishes. The scheme is very promising. Not only have the fish increased in size and numbers at an encouraging rate but the co-operators have themselves about $200 which will serve as capital for the scheme when they take full charge of it. Fishing is being deferred, except for predatory fishes, until the end of the current year in order to ensure a good stock of fish.

The Government of the Colony makes a contribution to the cost of stocking the Cameron Highlands rivers with trout. The fish, which were liberated in 1935, are reported to be doing well and were increased by a further supply of 8,000 young trout of approximately four inches in length. Some of the original stock has moved a little down-stream to deeper pools and fish of approximately a pound in weight may be seen at dusk in some of them. Some have actually been reported as caught on the fly but these efforts were wholly experimental and angling for them is not yet open. The hatchery stock have matured and look like spawning some time in the early part of 1937.

Revenue in 1936 amounted to $11,399 which shows a decrease of $974 from the figures for 1935.

There were 12,348 fishermen employed of which 6,306 were Malays, 3,980 Chinese, 1,752 Japanese and 262 Indians.

Digitized by Google

The following statement shows the quantity of fresh fish landed in the Colony during the year 1936:—

Penang and Province Wellesley	...	9,315 tons
Malacca	...	2,476 tons
Singapore	...	12,930 tons
Labuan	...	142 tons
Total	...	24,863 tons

D.—MINERALS

Mining operations in the Colony are confined to the Settlement of Malacca, where tin is mined and to Christmas Island, where deposits of phosphate of lime are worked by the Christmas Island Phosphate Company. There are coal deposits in Labuan but these are not at present being worked. On the 1st April, 1934, the tin mines of Malacca were brought formally within the scope of the International Tin-Restriction Scheme by the coming into operation of Ordinance No. 10 of 1934. By agreement with the Government of the Federated Malay States a fixed exportable allowance not exceeding 58·00 tons of tin per annum was allocated to the Settlement. This figure represents 1,291 pikuls of tin-ore, and the actual production during 1936 was 1285·16 pikuls. At the end of the year there were only five producers. Royalty amounting to $9,411 was paid.

The smelting of tin at Singapore and Penang is one of the principal industries of the Straits Settlements. The year's production, as declared by tin smelters, amounted to 84,716 tons, as compared with 61,923 tons in 1935, an increase of 36·8 per cent.

Imports into Singapore and Penang of tin-in-ore, (assessed as 75·5 per cent. by weight of ore imported) from countries outside Malaya amounted to 20,338 tons as compared with 16,634 tons in 1935 and from the Malay States and Malacca to 66,806 tons as compared with 42,327 tons in 1935, a total of 87,144 tons as compared with 58,961 tons in the previous year. Exports of smelted tin amounted to 83,492 tons. The price of tin was £217 a ton at the beginning and £233 a ton at the end of the year. The highest and lowest prices during the year were £244 and £176, and the annual average was £204. The average price in 1935 was £225.

The production of phosphates of lime, as shown by exports from Christmas Island was 161,440 tons. Of this, 124,550 tons were exported to Japan, 11,825 tons to Sweden, 5,600 tons to Netherlands, 5,550 tons to Germany, 5,200 tons to the Union of South Africa, 2,300 tons to Java, 50 tons to British India and 6,365 tons to Singapore and Port Swettenham. The labour force consisted of Chinese recruited in Singapore for work on the Island.

CHAPTER VII

Commerce

The foreign (external) trade of Malaya, representing the Colony of the Straits Settlements, the Federated and the Unfederated Malay States, in merchandise, bullion and specie and parcel post, amounted in value to $1,152 (£134) millions, as compared with $1,063 (£124) millions, in 1935, an increase of 8·4 per cent. Imports increased by $34 millions or 7·1 per cent. and exports by $55 millions or 9·4 per cent. The increase in both imports and exports was spread over the majority of the principal products, the largest increases being in the imports of rubber, liquid fuel, copra, tin

Digitized by Google

ore, rice, kerosene, other manufactures of iron or steel unenumerated and tin-plates, and in the exports of rubber, tin, cocoanut oil, kerosene, liquid fuel, copra, arecanuts, palm oil and sago flour. There were as a counterpoise, decreases in the imports of motor spirit, pepper, opium, motor cars, locomotives, swine and illipinuts, and a decline was also noted in the exports of motor spirit, pepper, gunnies and cotton piece goods. Exports of rubber increased by $44,221,000 in value, and tin by $24,059,000, due to the increased market values of these commodities, and on the whole a general improvement was noticeable both in the entrepot trade and the trade in domestic products.

Although the trade of the Straits Settlements, as distinct from Malaya, is not recorded separately, it can be assumed that Singapore and Penang handle the greater part of Malaya's trade and the large transhipment traffic, which comprises so valuable a part of Malayan commerce, passes almost entirely through these ports, being the nodal points for the collection, grading and distribution of goods for the whole of Malaysia, especially the neighbouring territories of the Netherlands Indies. At the same time, it must be remembered that the previous overwhelming proportion of entrepot trade has had to give way before the growth of trading self-consciousness of other countries, but still by no means everything that passes over the wharves or on the lighters in these two ports is of British Malayan origin or for a British Malayan destination. The $1,152 millions of external trade consisted of $513 millions of imports and $639 millions of exports, the corresponding figures for 1935 being respectively $479 millions and $584 millions. The value of bunker coal, oil fuel and stores taken on board ships and aircraft on foreign trade routes for their own consumption amounted to $11 millions and if this is added to the excess of exports there was a favourable trade balance of $137 millions, as compared with a favourable balance on the same basis of $117 millions in 1935.

As pointed out in previous reports, a certain amount of caution must be exercised in the use of statistics for measuring Malayan trade owing to the fact that the declared trade values for Malaya, and for the Colony, include a considerable portion of import and export of mineral oils. By virtue of its geographical position and proximity to the oil fields, Singapore is a natural storage and distributing centre for this commodity, and distribution is effected as far as Africa on one side and Australia on the other. To give an idea of the value of mineral oils imported and exported during the year 1936 and their relationship in value to the gross trade of Malaya, a glance at the following table is suggested :—

TRADE MINERAL OILS, 1936

VALUE IN $'000

	Imports	*Exports*	*Total*
Lubricating Oil	1,908	413	2,321
Kerosene	14,067	10,376	24,443
Liquid Fuel	17,078	5,694	22,772
Motor Spirit	36,777	27,451	64,228
A.—Total	69,830	43,934	113,764
B.—Malaya	513,000	639,000	1,152,000
C.—Percentage *A* and *B* ...	14	7	10

Digitized by Google

Of the $1,152 millions, representing the external trade of Malaya, $981 millions or 85 per cent. comprise the direct foreign trade of the Straits Settlements. The value of imports was $465 millions and of exports $516 millions. The figures indicate an increase in gross Colony trade and in the proportion of Malaya trade carried by Colony merchants, since 1935 when the Colony's $435 millions of imports and $474 millions of exports amounted to 86 per cent. of Malaya's external trade.

The percentage of Malayan trade with the United Kingdom, and the same can be said of that of the Colony, decreased from 15·9 to 11·6 but with British Possessions it increased from 15·4 to 15·7; there was, therefore, a net decrease with all British countries of 4·0 per cent.

The following is a table of the trade values geographically apportioned:—

	Imports	*Exports*	*Total*
	$ in millions		
1. United Kingdom	77	56	133
2. British Possessions	85	95	180
3. Continent of Europe ...	24	76	100
4. United States of America ...	9	296	305
5. Japan	33	48	81
6. Netherlands Indies	161	39	200
7. Siam	79	13	92
8. Other Countries	40	14	54
Total ...	508	637	1,145
Parcel Post, all countries ...	5	2	7
Total from Trade	513	639	1,152
Favourable Balance	126	—	—
	639	639	—

Detailed information regarding the trade of Malaya is contained in the regular periodical publications of the Department of Statistics.

Regulation of imports for Malayan consumption of cotton and rayon piece-goods manufactured in foreign countries by means of a quota system brought into force by the Importation of Textile (Quotas) Ordinance in 1934 remained throughout the year. The continued operation of the tin and rubber control schemes, as well as the textile (quotas) system did not hamper, on the whole, the Colony's tradition of free trade. Sanctions imposed against Italy under the Covenant of the League of Nations were raised in July and trade with Italy, in due time resumed its normal course. Apart from excise duties on liquors, tobacco and petroleum imposed solely for revenue purposes, there are no import duties in the Straits Settlements, and commerce and passenger traffic flow with a freedom that in these days is remarkable.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VIII

Wages and the Cost of Living

A.—WAGES

Standard rates of wages for Southern Indian labourers are prescribed by law in certain key districts in Malaya and these rates tend in practice to regulate the rates of wages earned in other districts either by Southern Indians or by labourers of other races. There was no change in standard rates during the year.

In the Colony, the only key district in which standard wages were in force was Province Wellesley where the prescribed rates were 40 cents a day for an able-bodied adult male labourer, 32 cents for an able-bodied adult female, and 16 cents for children of 10 years and over. No Indian child under 10 years of age may be allowed to work.

In Penang the average retail price of Rangoon No. 1 Rice which is the variety most commonly used by South Indian labourers in Malaya showed the usual seasonal decline, from 25 cents a gantang (8 lbs.) at the end of 1935 to 22 cents in April at which figure it remained constant until the middle of December, 1936, when it rose to 26 cents. In Malacca the price declined from 24 cents in January, 1936, to 21 cents in March, rising towards the end of the year to 24 cents. In Singapore the price declained from 26 cents in January to 23 cents in August, rising in the end of December to 26 cents. Estate Managers buy rice wholesale and retail it without profit to their labourers and the prices on Estates of Rangoon Rice were therefore lower than the figures given above. The price of No. 2 Siam rice which is the staple food of Chinese labour decreased from 34 cents a gantang in January to 24 cents in October but increased again to 28 cents in December.

The average of the monthly standard budget of a South Indian labourer showed decreases in each Settlement for 1936 as compared with 1935, Penang's fall being 0·8%, Malacca's about 8·3% and Singapore's about 2·4%, but the figures for the end of December, 1936, were about the same as at the end of December, 1935.

In the Settlement of Penang, daily rates for South Indian Agricultural labourers ranged from 40 to 68 cents a day for a male adult and from 32 to 40 cents a day for a female adult while children received from 16 to 35 cents a day. Normal rates for adults were about 40 cents for a male and 32 cents for a female.

In Singapore the daily earnings of South Indian labourers on estates ranged from 40 to 50 cents a day for adult males, from 32 to 40 cents a day for adult females and from 20 to 25 cents a day for children, the great majority of tappers being paid by results (4 to 6½ cents a lb. of rubber). Chinese tappers were paid by results, at varying rates higher however than those given to Indians or Javanese. In Government Departments and under public bodies the minimum rate for unskilled South Indian adult males was 40 cents a day, the range being from 47 to 96 cents a day, the normal being about 50 cents a day.

In Malacca on estates adult South Indian males earned 35 to 50 cents a day, adult females 28 to 40 cents a day and children 16 to 20 cents a day, the lower rates being found on some Asiatic properties in the first quarter of 1936. The higher rates were paid to store and factory workers. Chinese tappers worked at rates of 7½ to 8 cents a kati of rubber.

Digitized by Google

In Government Departments the rates ranged from 40 to 90 cents a day for adult unskilled males, 40 to 50 cents a day being normal.

The figures given above do not refer to skilled labour which commanded higher rates. Earnings of Javanese on estates were about the same as those of South Indians.

In Province Wellesley the labour forces are very settled, for on the older properties where South Indian labour has been employed for many years, the majority are locally born and the same position is being gradually attained in Malacca. Many of the estate labourers in Province Wellesley are not entirely dependent on their check roll wages, and the same position is frequently met with in Penang and is growing more common in Singapore.

Every employer is bound by law to provide at least 24 days' work in every month to each male or female labourer employed by him. There is no indentured labour in the Colony.

The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance *(Chapter 70)* is administered by a Commissioner in each centre (Singapore, Malacca, Penang and Province Wellesley) who is assisted by the Labour Department. Health and Labour Departments are invested with powers under the Labour Ordinance, to enforce proper conditions of health and work and protection from machinery is secured under the Machinery Ordinance. For further particulars, reference is invited to the Blue Book, Section 23.

B.—AVERAGE PRICES AND THE COST OF LIVING

For average prices, declared trade values, exchange, currency and cost of living, reference is invited to the separate report on this subject (No. S. 4) published annually by the Statistics Department. The average weighted index of commodity prices in Singapore, represented by 17 principal commodities (15 wholesale and 2 retail) increased by 14·1 per cent. as compared with 1935, due principally to increases in the prices of rubber, copra, tapioca and coconut oil. There were increases also in the prices of sago flour, arecanuts, palm oil and damar. The prices of tin, pepper, pineapples, rattans, coffee, rice and gambier declined. The price of tin was £217 per ton at the beginning and £233 at the end of the year, the highest and lowest prices being £244 and £176, respectively. The price of rubber was 6½ pence per lb. at the beginning and 10⅝ pence at the end of the year, the highest and lowest being 11⅛ pence and 6½ pence, respectively. The following index numbers show changes in commodity values during the last five years:—

1932	*1933*	*1934*	*1935*	*1936*
37	45	63	64	73

The tendency for retail values was to decline, as shown by a decrease of 3·2 per cent. in the index of food prices, representing the mean of differences of the average of the two years in Singapore, Penang and Malacca.

Municipal assessment values increased by 1·5 per cent. in Singapore and 0·1 per cent. in Penang, but declined by 2·2 per cent. in Malacca as compared with those of 1935.

There was a general but small decrease in the cost of living for all communities and the index numbers for the Asiatic, Eurasian and European standards given below show that costs in respect of all three standards

Digitized by Google

though slightly lower when compared with 1935 are still higher than in 1914.

Standard	1914	1935	1936	Percentage increase + or decrease − in 1936 as compared with 1935
Asiatic ...	100	108·1	106·0	− 1·9
Eurasian ...	100	109·0	107·8	− 1·1
European ...	100	124·7	124·0	− 0·6

CHAPTER IX

Education and Welfare Institutions

A.—GENERAL

Educational facilities are provided in English, Malay, Chinese and Tamil.

Schools are either Government, Aided by Government, or Private.

All schools, (other than those in which the teaching is of an exclusively religious nature) in which fifteen or more persons are habitually taught in one or more classes, and all supervisors, committees of management and teachers of schools, must be registered in accordance with the Registration of Schools Ordinance *(Chapter 139)*. To be a supervisor, a member of the committee of management or a teacher in an unregistered school is an offence against the Ordinance. Under the Ordinance the Director of Education may refuse to register any school that is insanitary or that is likely to be used for the purpose of propaganda detrimental to the interests of the pupils or as a meeting place of an unlawful society. The Director of Education may also, in certain circumstances, refuse to register a person as a supervisor, a member of a committee of management or a teacher. The Director of Education, however, interferes as little and as seldom as possible.

There was constituted in 1909 an Education Board, composed of four official and four unofficial members, with the following functions:—

(i) to determine the amount of fees to be charged in Government schools, and to receive all such fees;

(ii) to submit to Government the Annual Estimates for educational purposes and to make recommendations thereon;

(iii) to advise the Government as to the purpose for which moneys devoted to education should be expended and upon any matters connected with education which may from time to time be referred to it by the Governor.

This Board receives, in addition to the school fees, the proceeds of an education rate of 2 per cent. on property in municipalities and 1 per cent. on property in rural areas.

The reprinting of Education Codes was undertaken during the year and the following revised editions were issued:—

Part I. General Regulations for Government and Aided English Schools in the S.S. and F.M.S.

,, II. Regulations for Aided English Schools in the Straits Settlements.

Digitized by Google

Part III. Suggestions for Inspectors, Principals and Staffs of English Schools in the S.S. and F.M.S.

,, IV. A List of Scholarships in the S.S. together with Rules for the Remission of Fees.

,, VII. General Regulations for Indian Vernacular Schools in the S.S. and F.M.S.

The following Education Codes were in print at the close of the year:—

Part V. Regulations for Malay Vernacular Education in the S.S. and F.M.S.

,, VI. Regulations for Chinese Vernacular Schools in the S.S. and F.M.S.

B.—ENGLISH EDUCATION

The "English Schools" are those in which English is the medium of instruction. Less than half of the pupils come from English-speaking homes. The lowest class may be composed of children speaking between them some seven or eight different languages or dialects, those speaking one language or dialect being generally quite unable to understand those speaking any of the others. In the circumstances the use of the "Direct Method" of teaching English is practically obligatory. Children are accepted into the lowest class at the age of six or seven and are given an education which ends as a rule with their presentation at the Cambridge School Certificate Examination, though a few stay on to enter for the Queen's Scholarship Examination.

The fees for pupils enrolled before the 1st January, 1934, are $30 (£3 10*s.*) a year for boys and $24 (£2 16*s.*) a year for girls for the first six years (*i.e.* for the years spent in the two Primary Classes and in Standards I to IV inclusive) and $48 (£5 12*s.*) a year for boys and $36 (£4 4*s.*) a year for girls for the remaining period. The rates for boys and girls enrolled on or after the 1st January, 1934, are $36 (£4 4*s.*) a year for the first eight years (*i.e.* up to and including Standard VI) and thereafter $72 (£8 8*s.*) or $108 (£12 12*s.*) a year, according to the results of an examination, the successful pupils up to 50% of the available places paying the lower fee and the remainder paying the higher one.

There is no compulsory education.

In 1936 there were 24 Government and 33 Aided English Schools in the Colony, 28 in Singapore, 20 in Penang, 8 in Malacca and 1 in Labuan.

The average enrolment was 24,888 (9,356 in Government and 15,532 in Aided Schools), 366 less than last year.

Of the 24,888 pupils in English Schools, 18,354 were receiving elementary education (*i.e.* up to and including Standard V) and 6,534 secondary education (*i.e.* above Standard V).

One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one (or 10·14%) of those receiving elementary education and 1,439 (or 22%) of those receiving secondary education were enjoying free education. Of these free scholars 656 were Europeans and Eurasians, 965 Malays, 1,403 Chinese and 234 Indians, while 42 belonged to other races.

The Aided English Schools are managed by various missionary bodies—the Christian Brothers, the Methodist Episcopal Mission, the Church of

Digitized by Google

England, the Portuguese Catholic Church, and the Sisters of the Holy Infant Jesus.

The Government pays to such schools monthly grants equal to the difference between their revenue and approved expenditure. The approved expenditure includes Government rates of pay for the lay staff, rates and taxes on school premises, the cost of minor repairs and equipment, and salaries in respect of European Missionary teachers at the rate of $3,000 (£350) a year for men missionaries and $1,800 (£210) a year for women missionaries. Allowances at these rates, however, are payable only to 16 per cent. of the total authorised staff in boys' schools and 25 per cent. of that in girls' schools. The other missionary teachers, European and Asiatic, are paid at the rate of $1,440 (£168) a year for men and $1,200 (£140) a year for women. In Christian Brothers' Schools and Convent Schools no distinction is made between European and Asiatic missionary teachers who are all paid at a flat rate of $2,400 (£280) a year for men and $1,500 (£175) a year for women. Under certain conditions capital grants amounting to half the cost of approved new buildings are also paid by the Government.

The Government Afternoon Schools in Singapore continued the useful work that they have carried out since their initiation in 1930. These schools accommodate pupils who are unable to gain admission to Government or Aided morning schools: some, but by no means all, of the pupils are over-age for the morning schools. The afternoon schools are staffed by qualified and trained teachers for whom employment cannot be found in the regular Government or Aided schools. Co-operation and liaison with the morning schools continued and promising boys in the afternoon schools were drafted into the morning schools as opportunity occurred. In one of the schools special attention was paid to manual work of value to the over-age boys unsuited to literary studies. Two of the schools had sports and parents' days and school exhibitions of work. The enrolment of the afternoon schools in 1936 was 879 as compared with 844 in 1935. The total expenditure was $34,567 and the total revenue $30,258.

The private English schools may be divided into two main classes:—

(*a*) those controlled by religious bodies as educational and not commercial undertakings;

(*b*) those carried on by individuals for profit: many of these are accommodated in any sort of building—shop-house, private house, office or godown.

Among the 52 private English schools in Singapore are four or five efficiently conducted institutions and there has been a general though slow movement towards improvement in the private English schools in general. In 1936 there were 6,169 pupils in these schools in Singapore and 77 in Labuan. A still further step in the policy of improving the quality of the teachers was taken during the year by raising the minimum scholastic qualification for registration as a teacher from the Junior to the School Certificate (Senior Local) Examination. Selected teachers from private schools, who held the necessary initial qualification were admitted for training in the newly formed Singapore Primary Normal Class.

There were 12 private English schools in Penang with an enrolment of 851 boys and 143 girls. In Malacca there were 6 such schools with 306 boys and 33 girls.

The second annual Conference of the Heads of Singapore Government and Aided English schools was held under the presidency of the Inspector of Schools and formed a valuable medium for the exchange of ideas on

Digitized by Google

school organisation and method. As a result of the Conference various improvements in school organisation were made.

The appointments of European Supervisors—a Group Supervisor (man) for elementary classes and a Primary Supervisor (woman) for primary classes—in charge of groups of English schools with locally trained Principals were continued and the new arrangement was found to lead to a marked improvement in teaching methods. The Supervisors were also responsible for the Normal Class for Primary Teachers.

Arrangements were made in Singapore at the beginning of 1936 by which pupils in Aided Schools were taught Science on Saturday mornings and in the afternoons by science masters on the staffs of their own schools under the direction of the senior science master of Raffles Institution where the classes were held. Very satisfactory reports of the progress made were received.

There is no central College for the training of teachers for English Schools. When training is given it is supplied at Normal Classes* held at one centre in each of the three Settlements, but these classes have not been in full operation for some years. In 1936, however, a demand for teachers for primary work in the schools resulted in the re-opening of these classes in Singapore and Penang, and First Year Classes were started at both of these places in the course of the year; the students were all women, some of them being untrained teachers employed by private schools.

Three men from Penang were allowed to present themselves at a final Normal Class Examination held in 1936, and of these two passed.

The extensive and valuable scheme of Post Normal training was continued in Singapore, and many of the classes were arranged by the Department in conjunction with the Singapore Teachers' Association. A second elementary course in Malayan Plant Life was held by the Assistant Director of Gardens and the most successful students in the 1935 course were admitted to a special course in Systematic Botany. It is hoped that through the teachers who attend these classes a start may be made with the teaching of Biology. One of the European officers who attended this course, a qualified science mistress, is preparing a series of simple text-books for use in schools, the first of which "Nature Study in the Tropics" was published in 1936. Other teachers' courses held were in Speech Training and the Drama, in General Elementary Science, in First Aid, in Art and Handwork, in Folk Dancing and in Singing. The course in General Elementary Science, for which a fee was charged, was conducted by the Professor of Chemistry, Raffles College, and was attended by over seventy teachers. The course in First Aid was conducted by the local branch of St. John's Ambulance Society. The fine spirit of effort and enthusiasm shown by teachers in all the Post-Normal classes was a happy augury for the future.

Courses were run in Woodwork and Science for Trained teachers at Penang.

Teachers for all classes other than the first three primary classes are now recruited from Raffles College. In 1936 seven Raffles College graduates were appointed to Government and Aided Shcools in Singapore and one to an Aided School in Malacca while 13 teachers who had received their training in Normal Classes and who were not in employment in Government or Aided Schools were given appointments; 12 in Singapore and one in Malacca.

* A Normal Class is a Class for training teachers

Digitized by Google

C.—VOCATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION

Technical Education.—Pupils from the Straits Settlements are admitted to the Government Technical School at Kuala Lumpur in the Federated Malay States where courses of training are given for students from the Public Works, Railways, Electrical, and Posts and Telegraphs Departments, and accommodation provided also for a class conducted by the Survey Department for its own subordinates.

In the Government Evening Classes in Singapore courses were provided in Plumbing, Structural Engineering, Machine Design, Surveying, Chemistry and Sanitary Engineering. The classes with the highest average attendance were Plumbing (60 in the 3rd term), Machine Design (34 in the 3rd term) and Structural Engineering (31 in the 3rd term). The classes, like all classes of this type everywhere, suffer from irregular enthusiasm, but, in general, steady and useful work was done during the year.

The Government Evening Classes in Singapore also continued to provide Nautical courses that were well attended throughout the year. The local nautical examinations were taken: twenty four qualified, twelve as helmsmen, seven as gunners and five as local trade masters. The numbers in these classes are limited in accordance with the requirements of the Port. Through the Master Attendant's Department, which is in direct contact with the various shipping companies, information is obtained regarding all vacancies for those who are qualified.

Government Evening Classes were also held at Penang in Radio Engineering, Machine Drawing and Applied Mathematics. The two latter were started at the request of the Straits Steamship Company and proved very popular.

Agricultural Education.—There is no school of agriculture in the Straits Settlements but pupils may proceed to the School of Agriculture at Serdang, near Kuala Lumpur, in the Federated Malay States, where one-year and two-year courses of study are followed. Government provided a number of scholarships to this school in 1936.

Four Singapore English schools maintained vegetable gardens during the year and received help and advice from the Agricultural Department which reported favourably on the work done. In addition eight Malay schools had gardens. In the annual Exhibition of Work of the Malay schools a section for vegetables and flowers was included for the first time. Geylang English School was placed first in the English School garden competition and Tanah Merah Besar School second in the parallel Malay School competition.

The useful holiday agricultural course was held at Bukit Mertajam in April and attended by 56 boys. The Poultry Farm there continued to be fairly successful and another was started at Bagan Tuan Kechil. Forty-nine Malay schools have gardens, and 2,695 boys attend their own home plots; three schools have their own rice fields.

Gardening continues to be of a high standard in the vernacular schools at Malacca. One thousand two hundred boys had home gardens. In addition to the annual inter-school Garden Competition, the Malay Schools' Second Annual Agricultural Show was held in Malacca town on 26th September, 1936. Six hundred exhibits were received—an increase of 200 over those of 1935. The Show attracted great attention. Three parties of Malacca gurus visited Serdang School of Agriculture during the year.

Digitized by Google

Poultry keeping at Pengkalan Balak School in Malacca showed good progress. It was found necessary to expand the poultry run. Nine cross-bred Rhode Island Red cockerels were sold to kampong people.

Commercial Education.—Courses of study covering the better part of two years are provided by the Commercial Departments of Raffles Institution, St. Joseph's Institution, and the French Convent in Singapore, and the Government Day School in Penang and in the Government Evening Classes courses were given in Shorthand, Typewriting and Book-keeping. There are also several efficient private commercial schools in Singapore. The extent of the commercial work in schools and evening classes in Singapore is indicated by the number of entries in 1936 for the examinations of the London Chamber of Commerce, namely 1,011 candidates with 2,595 subject entries.

The Government Evening Classes at Penang provided courses in Advanced Book-keeping and Accountancy, Economics, Typewriting, Book-keeping and Shorthand. Seven entered for the Higher Certificate of the London Chamber of Commerce and 82 for the ordinary certificate at the November examination.

Evening Commercial Classes were also held regularly at Malacca, but Shorthand and Typewriting were the only subjects taught. Ten students sat for the London Chamber of Commerce Autumn Examination. These classes fill a definite need in Malacca, where there exists no other means of obtaining commercial education.

Industrial Education.—(*a*) The Singapore Trade School had an enrolment of 134 students of whom 87 were taking the general mechanics training course, 26 the electrical and 21 the plumbing course. Each is a three-year course and in 1936, 32 completed the course, namely 20 mechanics, six electricians and six plumbers.

As in past years, some outside work was done. The amount undertaken was not so excessive as to interfere with the progressive scheme of instruction but ensured necessary practical training. The gross revenue from outside work was $3,990.76 of which $990.76 represented profit.

A special Plumbing Shop was completed during the year to replace the temporary building formerly in use. The plant of the school was increased by the addition of a milling machine, an air compressor, a small drilling machine, a few second-hand electric motors and generators for experimental work, a four-foot planing machine and additional plumbing and electrical tools. The students constructed a brake-horse power testing machine, a variable voltage D.C. generating set and an electrical test board.

An important departure was made in arranging for an officer of the Public Works Department to be Electrical Adviser to the school and to pay regular visits of inspection. His advice regarding syllabus and equipment has been most valuable.

Instruction in electrical and acetylene welding was added to the syllabus and the Singapore Harbour Board kindly arranged for students in rotation to receive two months' training in their welding department. The Far East Oxy-Acetylene Company provided Oxygen and Acetylene free of charge.

The first two Jubilee Memorial Scholarships of the value of $12 a month each were awarded in 1935, the first to LIM SOM CHAI of St. Andrew's School and the second to CHUA THONG TAK of Victoria School.

Fees of $3 a month ($36 or £4 4*s.* a year) were paid by all except a limited number of poor students. There was great demand for admission

Digitized by Google

and there were over one hundred names on the waiting list at the end of the year.

Thanks largely to the Advisory Committee, which took a keen and sustained interest in the work of the school throughout the year, no difficulty was found in placing qualified students in employment. Very few of the qualified students who have passed out of the Singapore Trade School have been given employment in Government Departments: most are absorbed into private employment though none has yet been placed with local Chinese firms.

(*b*) The enrolment at the Penang Trade School fell to 70, 48 boys leaving and only 35 being admitted. Of these 48 only 24 had completed the course. The reason given for leaving prematurely was, in all cases, poverty. Boys who complete the course have no difficulty in obtaining employment. An officer from the Naval Base visited the school in September and expressed himself as quite satisfied with the standard of work. Six ex-students have since obtained employment there.

One new 6½″ lathe and one Gray 1″ lathe together with a circular Milling table and Milling machine and a complete welding set were installed during the year.

Gross receipts for work done were approximately $4,000 of which $1,000 was profit. Maintenance contracts for the Excise, Posts and Telegraphs, and Medical Departments were satisfactorily carried out.

Twenty-two out of 24 graduates found work on leaving.

(*c*) The Malacca Trade School had an enrolment of 22 students in the 2nd year class and one in the first year class at the beginning of the year. After the reduction of the fee in May the enrolment in the first year class rose to 22. At the end of the year the enrolment was 42 of whom five were Eurasians, one Chinese and 36 Malays.

The question of financial difficulties was again serious. Five boys were given scholarships of $6 a month, four received $3 a month and five were made free scholars. One boy received assistance in travelling. Several boys used an old hospital building as a hostel.

Both classes studied practical and theoretical carpentry and the 2nd year class was given a course in building construction in addition. It was found impossible to start a class in tailoring owing to the lack of demand.

The work was inspected twice during the year by an outside examiner, who expressed himself satisfied with the progress of the studies.

D.—UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGIATE (POST-SECONDARY) EDUCATION

The highest educational institutions in Malaya are the King Edward VII College of Medicine and Raffles College, both in Singapore. The course at the College of Medicine covers six years and is recognised by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom. Licentiates of the College are thus able to secure admission to the Colonial List of the Medical Register and to be registered as medical practitioners in any part of the British Dominions.

There is also a fully organised dental school in which a five years' course of training is given, the Diploma in Dental Surgery entitling its holder to practise in Malaya.

There is a four years' course for a diploma in Pharmacy, entitling the holder to register under the Registration of Pharmacists Ordinance and to

Digitized by Google

hold a licence under the Poisons and Deleterious Drugs Ordinance, thereby enabling him to practise as a dispenser in Malaya.

Raffles College was opened in 1928 in order to place education of a University standard within the reach of all youths in British Malaya who were capable of profiting by it, and to meet an urgent need for qualified teachers for secondary classes. It provides three year courses in Arts and Science, and Diplomas are awarded to successful students.

The College awards annually ten Entrance Scholarships of a value of $720 a year tenable for three years, and a limited number of Second and Third Year Exhibitions, not exceeding $500 a year, are available for students who show exceptional ability during their first or second years at College.

Two scholarships known as Queen's Scholarships, the value of which may amount to £500 for the first year and £400 for any subsequent year, up to six years in all, are awarded every year after examination and selection. The examining body is appointed by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate and it is a condition that no scholarship shall be awarded to a candidate who, in the opinion of the examining body, is not fit to study for an honours degree at Oxford or Cambridge. Queen's Scholars are ordinarily required to proceed to a residential college at Oxford or Cambridge.

The annual examination for these scholarships, the thirteenth since they were restored by Government in 1923, was held in October. The successful candidates were LIM HONG BEE and CHIA KIM CHWEE of the Raffles Institution, Singapore. The first received all his secondary education at Raffles Institution while the second was at the Anglo-Chinese School, Singapore, before his admission to the Queen's Scholarships Class. Both the scholars are taking Law at Cambridge University. Fourteen candidates competed at the examination.

E.—VERNACULAR EDUCATION

Malay Vernacular Schools.—Malay vernacular education is entirely free. School buildings (as a rule), quarters for staff, staff, equipment and books are all provided by Government.

The aim in these schools is (i) to give a general and practical education to those boys and girls who will not receive an English education and who will find employment in vocations like agriculture in which a knowledge of English is not essential, and (ii) to provide preliminary vernacular education for pupils who will later receive an English education.

In 1936 there were 214 Malay vernacular schools with an average enrolment of 25,211 pupils. The figures for 1935 were 211 schools and 24,110 pupils. There is also an aided Malay school at Pulau Bukom, near Singapore, at which the enrolment was 60. In addition there were two private Malay schools in Singapore which had 378 pupils.

In Singapore, an important innovation in 1936 was the formation of a Standard VI at Kota Raja School. It consisted of selected boys from all the Malay schools in Singapore. The minimum qualification for admission was a creditable pass in the 1935 Standard V examination. The curriculum included Basic English (introduced as an experiment, though it has been decided in future years to teach traditional English instead) and is specially designed, with emphasis placed on manual work, to produce "handy" youths suitable for posts in shops and offices. The class was very successful

Digitized by Google

and will become increasingly necessary as more and more boys pass out from Standard V at an age when they are too young to enter employment.

Those who are to become teachers in the Malay vernacular boys' schools are selected from the pupils who have shown promise. As pupil teachers they both teach and study until they have attained the age of sixteen between which time and their eighteenth birthday they sit for an examination qualifying for admission to the Sultan Idris Training College at Tanjong Malim in the Federated Malay States. If they do sufficiently well they are accepted into the College and put through a three-year course. Graduates of the College are designated "Trained Teachers".

In Singapore there were special classes for teachers in Malay schools in practical teaching, arithmetic, geography, carpentry (men only) and handwork. Separate classes for men and women were held and the progress made, particularly in Art and Handwork, was excellent.

The Rochore Girls' School, a school for selected pupils from all the Malay Girls' School in Singapore, continued to progress. The curriculum includes English as well as Malay but places special emphasis on art and handwork, nursing, cookery, needlework and homecraft generally. The Government Health Department gave valuable assistance in the teaching of nursing and hygiene. From this school are now drawn all the candidates for the teaching profession and as a result the new pupil teachers are far superior to the old.

The most important event of the year was the opening of the new Kampong Melayu (Malay Settlement) Malay School. There was a Scout display, an exhibition of work, and a school entertainment and there were gratifying indications of the happy co-operation between parents and the school that has of recent years become a feature of Malay education.

The Malay Women Teachers' Training College, Malacca, which opened in 1935, had an enrolment of 24 students drawn from the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States. The staff consisted of a Principal and an Assistant, both Europeans. The health of the students was good and there was a gratifying improvement in personal hygiene, mainly due to the popularity of "beauty" classes and to the rivalry in nicety of lingerie that arose, but one or two girls needed strict hair supervision and verminous heads continued to be still a matter of great concern; the cleansing of food utensils and dishes left much to be desired unless supervised daily, while drill in mannerly and tidy eating was very necessary. General behaviour was excellent, the students showing some aptitude in themselves arranging for amusements during their leisure time; a debating society inaugurated and managed by the students met once a week; a prefect system was introduced and worked very well indeed. By the end of the year the students were able to take notes with reasonable accuracy in sense and spelling, and the results in the final examination were distinctly better than in 1935; arithmetic and the scientific aspect of geography were subjects that remained difficult to the majority, but history made special appeal; all branches of industrial work gave great satisfaction when treated in class, but application of the training to daily life was exhibited by only a few of the students. Every student taught six criticism lessons during the year; the lessons showed vitality and, occasionally, originality on the part of the teachers, but there was usually a lack of forethought and a failure to grasp the child's difficulties. Badminton continued to be the principal game played, the bad condition of the temporary field militating against the popularity of netball; all forms of physical exercise were taught including

Digitized by Google

class drill, country dancing and rhythm. On Fridays the students entertained to tea and games the staffs of the girls' schools in the neighbourhood and the members of the Malacca Girls' Club; in April they gave a performance of "The Sleeping Beauty" before an audience of Europeans, and in original sketches fully exhibited the natural dramatic wit of the Malays; at a meeting held for the purpose of the presentation to the French Convent of the Badminton Cup, the students entertained 200 guests; visits to the cinema were arranged once a month whenever a suitable film was screened. All students admitted in 1935 completed two years' training by the end of the year and were appointed teachers in Malay girls' schools in December.

Chinese Vernacular Schools.—There are no Government Chinese Schools in the Colony. The number of Chinese schools receiving grants-in-aid in 1936 was 28 in Singapore, 22 in Penang and five in Malacca. There is an increase of 18 in Singapore and two in Malacca over the 1935 figures. The Penang figure remained the same. The total grants paid to these schools was $96,980 as against $49,308 in 1935.

The grants to Chinese vernacular schools are in two grades for primary schools, $10 (£1 3*s.* 4*d.*) a year or $5 (11*s.* 8*d.*) a year for each pupil in average attendance. The grant system was extended in 1936 to Middle schools at the rate of $18 (£2 2*s.*) a year or $12 (£1 8*s.*) a year for each pupil in average attendance. In order to qualify for the higher grade, schools must teach English with reasonable efficiency and must employ for that purpose a teacher who holds the minimum qualification of a Junior Cambridge Certificate or a certificate recognised by the Director of Education as of equal value. In addition to these grants certain schools with Normal classes receive a special grant of $25 (£2 18*s.* 4*d.*) a year in respect of a limited number of pupils in their normal classes. This number is determined by the number who may be reasonably expected to be absorbed as teachers in the local schools.

There are three types of schools:—

(i) those managed by properly constituted committees;

(ii) pseudo-public schools, *i.e.* schools organised by one or more teachers who choose their own "committee members";

(iii) private schools run by a teacher who relies on the school fees for his livelihood, these schools being usually small and old in type.

There are several free schools at which a nominal fee of 50 cents (1*s.* 2*d.*) a month is charged. The fees in other schools are usually round about $2 (4*s.* 8*d.*) a month.

In almost all the private schools the native dialects of the pupils are still used in teaching, but in the other schools Colloquial Mandarin is the almost universal language of instruction. English is taught in many of the large schools and in some of the smaller. The standard is very low, but attempts have been made to improve it by insisting on a minimum qualification of a Cambridge Junior Certificate from teachers engaged solely to teach English, and by having a standard curriculum drawn up for the guidance of teachers of English.

The Primary course in Chinese schools normally occupied six years. The Government has little if any control over the fees charged, the hours of attendance, or the length of holidays in any except the Aided schools. The usual school subjects are found in the curriculum.

Digitized by Google

Secondary education for boys is provided in Singapore at the Chinese High School which in 1936 completed a three year Junior Middle Course. In Penang there were two schools for boys which provided a secondary education as well as a primary course. In Malacca one boys' school provided post primary classes, but not a complete secondary course. One girls' school in Singapore provided a three year secondary course, which is followed by a three year Normal course. Three girls' schools in Singapore and two in Penang provide a post primary Normal course.

Inter-school sports for Chinese schools managed by the Education Department have for some years been an annual event in Penang. In 1936 Singapore and Malacca were also included. The meetings in all the three Settlements were a great success and it is intended that in future annual sports shall be a regular event.

An Inter-School Examination which was started in 1935 was again held this year. The subjects in which pupils were examined were Chinese, English, Mathematics, History and Geography. It is hoped that this examination may help to raise the standard of education in Chinese schools.

At the close of 1936 there were 440 registered schools with 1,696 registered teachers and 36,657 pupils. The figures for 1935 were 430 schools, 1,518 teachers and 32,486 pupils.

Tamil Vernacular Schools.—There were no Government Tamil Schools in the Straits Settlements. Most of the Tamil schools in Penang and Province Wellesley, and all those in Malacca, were estate schools founded either voluntarily or by order of the Controller of Labour. The remainder were private schools run by mission bodies or committees.

Education is entirely free in estate schools; in some of these the children also receive free uniforms (from toddy-shop profits) and the parents a gift of rice if attendance is satisfactory. The schools run by Christian missions or Indian Associations usually give free education to the poor. In proprietory schools the fees seldom exceed $1 (2*s.* 4*d.*) a month.

At the end of the year there were 62 Tamil schools in the Colony with 2,816 pupils (of whom 1,029 were girls). The figures for 1935 were 52 schools with 2,231 pupils (of whom 844 were girls).

Of the 62 schools, 37 schools with 2,038 pupils received grants-in-aid which in 1936 amounted to $13,434 as against $8,037 in 1935.

No Singapore schools were in receipt of grants-in-aid. The most efficient of these schools was not in need of a grant and none of the others reached a standard high enough to justify a grant, though improvement was registered.

The appointment of a Tamil Assistant Inspector of Schools has resulted in a better understanding between the Education Department and the Managers of schools, with the result that greater efforts are now being made to fulfil requirements with regard to school buildings and equipment.

One estate school in Malacca taught Malayalam and about 15 children in another school learnt Telugu.

There is no provision in Malaya for the training of Tamil teachers. An attempt is being made to raise the standard of qualifications of teachers by holding qualifying examinations of those applicants who can show no proof of their attainments.

Malacca teachers have been given an opportunity to learn something about physical training in schools, and, with the engagement of a teacher who has taken a course under the Superintendent of Physical Education, it

Digitized by Google

is hoped to encourage the widespread inclusion of efficient physical training in the curriculum of estate schools.

Though there is no policy of co-education, a number of girls attend boys schools. There is only one Tamil vernacular school for girls in the Colony, the Convent Tamil School at Penang, and even this has a few boys in its lower classes.

F.—MUSIC, ART, DRAMA AND RECREATION

Music.—An important experiment in the organisation and supervision of the teaching of music was commenced during the year by the appointment of a Master of Music for the Colony. On his arrival he was posted to Singapore and was placed on the staff of a Singapore English school until the end of the year to enable him to gain first-hand acquaintance with local problems and teaching difficulties. To assist him in the preliminary survey of conditions the teachers of singing were formed into classes taken by him in the afternoons. He assisted the Choir and Orchestra of the Singapore Teachers' Association and made himself familiar with local musical conditions. He was appointed one of the two school representatives on the Children's Concert Committee. This Committee of which Major E. A. BROWN, O.B.E., is the Chairman and moving spirit, was again responsible for maintaining the Children's Orchestra (started in 1933) and arranging concerts for the children of the schools. At the end of the year the Children's Orchestra, in conjunction with various adult orchestras, gave an orchestral concert in aid of the local Rotary Fund for Christmas celebrations for the unemployed, and was the recipient of warm eulogies.

Lessons in musical appreciation were, as in past years, given in many schools. Part-singing and sight-singing of a high standard were continued at several schools, and several schools maintained school orchestras.

Art.—The high standard of past years was maintained. In the Primary Department, *Primary Classes and Standard I,* more attention was given to choice of subject matter and in consequence there was greater freedom in interpretation and individual expression. In these classes the handwork exercises were arranged according to the psychological and physiological development of the child and too high a standard of neatness and finish was not demanded. A remarkable and pleasing advance was made in the use of colour. In the Elementary Classes, *Standard II to Standard V,* a scheme of observational drawing was followed supplemented by creative work of various kinds and the teaching of design was introduced in a practical manner allied to some simple craft. The most popular handwork took the form of crafts connected with bookbinding such as stick printing, potato printing, marbling, block printing and stencilling. Basketry and cane weaving were also extensively practised. In the girls' schools, decorative needlework formed the bulk of the handwork. In the Secondary Classes, *Standard VI and upwards,* the scheme leads naturally and without forcing to the completion of the Art Syllabus for the School certificate Examination. The usual Art classes for teachers in the English and Malay schools in Singapore were again held and the enthusiasm and interest that have been so marked a feature of these classes for some years past continued unabated.

All Government English schools and three large Malay schools in Penang include carpentry in their curriculum.

Malacca schools still lack the advantages of having a local drawing instructor, but instruction in this subject was attempted in all schools.

Digitized by Google

Drama.—This very important aid to self-expression and to language teaching was much used in all schools, English and vernacular. The lowest classes of the English and Malay schools act simple plays and dramatize stories. In the higher classes more ambitious presentations, such as scenes from Shakespeare, are attempted.

The Singapore Teachers' Association again arranged for special courses for its members in elocution and the drama, and presented two short modern plays during the year. Short prose plays formed a feature of the programme of the Prize Distributions of most schools, English and Malay. Parts of well known Tamil dramas are frequently acted in Tamil schools.

Recreation.—Adequate provision was made in all schools, English and Malay, for recreation. The more popular games, football, cricket, and hockey, were played in all boys' schools. Provision was made in some schools for badminton, tennis, volley ball and basket ball. Malay schools are particularly keen on association football and have football leagues of their own.

All English schools held annual sports meetings. Facilities for indoor games, such as ping-pong and badminton, were often to be found, and a number of schools possess see-saws, swings, slides, etc., for the younger children.

Organised games were conducted in most of the girls' schools in the time allotted for physical training. In Malay girls' schools folk games were included in the physical training as part of the curriculum.

A special class in Folk Dancing was held for women teachers in Singapore and 31 qualified for certificates of attendance and achievement.

The Superintendent of Physical Education was posted to Malacca on his return from leave in August, 1936. He has revived interest in physical education and has held classes for teachers in addition to making inspections of schools.

The Guide movement received considerable impetus from the official visit to Malaya of an officer specially qualified to take training courses. The Scout movement during the year recorded special extension in the Rover Scout movement which rendered much useful service to the various school Troops and Packs. Malacca won the competition for the Scout District with the best Malay School Troops in the Peninsula. In the parallel competition for the best English School Troops, Penang was placed second to Negri Sembilan.

G.—ORPHANAGES AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS

The St. Nicholas Home (a Church of England Institution supported by the Government), receives blind and physically defective children, without restriction as to race or religion, from all over Malaya. There was an average of 15 boys and girls in the Home during 1936.

This Home is at Penang and it gives instruction in Braille by a qualified instructor. The Government grant was $1,550. Lord NUFFIELD on his visit to Penang gave this institution $10,000.

There are fifteen orphanages in the Colony (five in Singapore, five in Penang and five in Malacca), with 1,475 orphans in 1936, maintained by various religious bodies. Most of these orphanages receive some measure of Government support which in 1936 amounted to $39,328.

The orphans are educated in their own language and, in addition, receive an elementary English education. The girls are then taught housekeeping and needlework. They generally marry or take up domestic service

Digitized by Google

when they leave, but some continue their education at English schools and become teachers or hospital nurses. The boys go to English schools where they receive the same treatment as ordinary pupils.

Po Leung Kuk Homes, established in connection with rescue work among women and girls, are maintained at Singapore, Penang and Malacca. The Homes are supported by private and Government subscriptions, and are supervised by committees of which the Secretary for Chinese Affairs is the Chairman.

Victims of traffickers, women and girls discovered on boats from China in suspicious circumstances, as well as *mui tsai* who complain of ill-treatment, are detailed in the Homes, where they remain until suitable arrangements can be made for their welfare.

The Home in Singapore has accommodation for 300.

During the year the Salvation Army with the assistance of the local Rotary Club opened the Salvation Army Industrial Home in Singapore for waifs and strays (boys). The enrolment at the end of the year was 25 and the Home seeks to provide the boys with an elementary education, with a practical bias, in English or Malay.

CHAPTER X

Communications and Transport

A.—SHIPPING

Communications by sea between the various Settlements are frequent and regular.

A weekly mail service between Singapore and Labuan is maintained by ships belonging to the Straits Steamship Company. Vessels belonging to this Company also ply regularly from Malacca to Penang and Singapore, and there are Chinese-owned vessels engaged in coastal trade. Most of the mail and passenger ships which call at Singapore call at Penang also. Christmas Island is served by the s.s. *"Islander"* which belongs to the Christmas Island Phosphate Company and maintains a five-weekly service.

The Colony is very favourably situated for communication by sea with other countries, as Singapore is a nodal point for traffic between Europe, the Netherlands Indies, British India and the Far East.

The tonnage of all vessels entered and cleared at the five ports of the Colony (Singapore, Penang, Malacca, Labuan and Christmas Island) during the year 1936 was 48,038,328 tons, being 627,515 tons more than in 1935. Particulars are shown in Appendix *"C"*. The increase at Singapore was 199,490 tons, and at Christmas Island 22,888 tons. Penang, Malacca and Labuan combined showed an increase of 405,137 tons.

The figure for merchant vessels above 75 tons net register increased by 571,035 tons.

In the last six years the combined arrivals and departures of merchant vessels have been as follows:—

1931	...	...	...	43,632,445	tons
1932	...	...	...	43,424,295	,,
1933	...	...	...	43,056,128	,,
1934	...	...	...	44,006,480	,,
1935	...	...	...	44,959,859	,,
1936	...	...	...	45,530,894	,,

Digitized by Google

B.—ROADS

The road systems of the various Settlements comprise a total of 978 miles of metalled roads, of which the Municipalities of Singapore, Penang and Malacca maintain 247 miles and the remaining 731 miles are maintained by the Public Works Department, mostly in Rural Board areas. In addition the Public Works Department maintains 166 miles of natural roads and hill paths.

The mileage in the various Settlements is given in the following table :—

Settlement	Municipal	Government and Rural Board Roads			Total Road Mileage
	Roads and Streets	Metalled	Unmetalled and Natural	Total	
Singapore	162·21	*147·35	2·63	149·98	312·19
Penang	67·81	*79·31	29·02	108·33	176·14
P. Wellesley ..	..	178·68	26·87	205·55	205·55
Malacca	17·19	305·65	86·11	391·76	408·95
Labuan	..	19·77	21·35	41·12	41·12
TOTAL ..	247·21	730·76	165·98	896·74	1,143·95

* Includes Government private roads within Municipal Limits

Expenditure.—Expenditure on the 897 miles entrusted to the Public Works Department falls under two heads "Maintenance" and "Reconstruction" and totalled $794,845.47 of which $503,277.73 was for maintenance, and $291,567.74 was for reconstruction. The average cost of maintenance was $561.00 per mile.

Singapore Municipality spent $238,792.11 on maintenance and $103,351.54 on reconstruction making a total of $342,143.65 for the year 1936 as compared with $166,621.44 in the year 1935.

Penang and Malacca Municipalities spent $97,966.30 and $39,582.20 respectively as compared with $97,205.96 and $49,392.46 in the year 1935.

The principal road reconstruction work in the Colony was carried out in Singapore where the reconstruction of the Singapore—Johore Main Road and surfacing with asphaltic concrete was completed to within ½ mile of the Johore Causeway.

A further all round increase in motor transport is apparent from the following table showing the numbers of cars and lorries licensed during 1936 :—

Settlements	1935			1936		
	Cars	Lorries	Jinrick-shaws	Cars	Lorries	Jinrick-shaws
Singapore ..	7,765	2,246	4,000	(a) 8,514	2,467	4,705
Penang ..	2,277	489	2,489	2,493	511	2,548
Malacca ..	1,061	236	715	1,108	263	718
Total ..	11,103	2,971	7,204	12,115	3,241	7,971

(a) Singapore includes 282 Hackney Carriages

Digitized by Google

Public transport is provided in Singapore by the Singapore Traction Company which operates a fleet of 108 Trolley Buses and 102 Omnibuses on routes 24·94 and 25·63 miles long respectively. During the year 49,468,719 passengers were carried by the Company's vehicles.

In Penang public transport is provided by electric tramcars and trolley buses operated by the Municipal Electrical Department over a route of 13·6 miles which carried 10,021,517 passengers during 1936. The trams are gradually being replaced by trolley buses and now only 1·61 miles of Tramway Track is left in commission. The Penang Hill Railway of 1·25 miles in length is the approach to Penang Hill. During 1936 it carried 129,158 passengers to and from the hill which is 2,250 feet above sea level.

C.—RAILWAYS

The railways in the Colony are owned by the Federated Malay States Government. Singapore is connected with the mainland by a Causeway carrying both railway and road, but communication between Prai and the island of Penang is by ferry. Malacca is linked to the system by a branch line from Tampin.

From Province Wellesley a line runs North to the Siamese frontier station of Padang Besar and there connects with the Royal State Railways of Siam. Through traffic was opened on the 1st July, 1918, the distance from Singapore to Bangkok being 1,195 miles.

The day and night mail trains running between Singapore and Prai are provided with restaurant or buffet parlour cars and sleeping saloons. The journey of 488 miles takes approximately 22 hours allowing for a break of approximately 3 hours at Kuala Lumpur which is situated 246 miles from Singapore.

D.—AIRWAYS

Imperial Airways and the Royal Netherlands Airways (K.L.M.) each provide a fast, regular and reliable bi-weekly service, the former plying between Singapore and London and the latter between Singapore and Amsterdam and between Singapore and the Netherlands Indies. The aircraft of both companies call at Penang en route.

Co-operating with the Royal Netherlands Airways (K.L.M.) is the Royal Netherlands Indies Airways (K.N.I.L.M.), operating between Medan and Batavia *viâ* Singapore on a bi-weekly schedule. A weekly service between Batavia and Singapore *viâ* Palembang is also in operation.

Qantas Empire Airways, linking up Singapore and Australia, now operate a bi-weekly service in conjunction with the services of Imperial Airways. The usual time in transit between Australia and Singapore is 4 days.

Imperial Airways (Far East) Ltd., now operate a regular weekly service between Penang and Hong Kong. This service connects with the England-Australia service.

Singapore Civil Aerodrome.—It is expected that this Aerodrome will be ready for use in June, 1937.

This Aerodrome, situated some 2 miles only from the centre of Singapore, lies between the business area and the residential area on the eastern outskirts of the city. Approximately 259 acres of tidal swamp have been reclaimed, 7,000,000 cubic yards of filling being required for this work. When the work is completed, Singapore will possess a landing

Digitized by Google

ground 1,000 yards in diameter, and an extensive and sheltered anchorage for seaplanes situated close to the centre of the city.

Until this Aerodrome is completed commercial aircraft are allowed to use the Royal Air Force ground at Seletar.

Penang Civil Aerodrome.—This Aerodrome is used regularly by the air services to and from Europe. Full lighting equipment for night flying was installed in 1936.

The landing area comprises:—

N.E.—S.W. Landing strip 950 yards × 200 yards with asphalt macadam runway 60 yards wide down centre. (Macadamised turning and parking areas available at both ends 133 yards wide); and a

N.W.—S.E. Landing strip 800 yards × 200 yards. Grass surfaced.

Eight hundred and ten landings were made by aircraft at Penang during the year exclusive of the operations of the local club.

Flying Clubs.—"Taxi-flights" can be made by arrangement with the Malayan Flying Clubs who own 17 light aircraft.

The Royal Singapore Flying Club has completed its eighth successful year. It owns three Moth seaplanes, one Hornet and three Moth landplanes.

The Penang Flying Club added a B.A. Eagle to its fleet of three Moth Majors, the Leopard Moth having been written off. The Club continues to operate from the Penang Aerodrome.

Internal Services.—There are, as yet, no regular internal air services in operation but a more general interest in air transport is now apparent and their inauguration in the near future is to be expected.

E.—POSTS, MONEY ORDERS, TELEGRAPHS, TELEPHONES AND WIRELESS

(i).—Posts

The manifold activities of the Post Office available to the public in urban centres are, with minor restrictions, also at the service of the inhabitant of the remote village.

The Post Office supplements its primary function of letter carrier with the following services which touch the everyday life of the mercantile community and the private individual:—telephone, telegraph, radio-telegraphy, money order, postal order, savings bank, parcel post and cash-on-delivery system.

In the Straits Settlements full postal facilities are provided by 42 Post Offices; restricted services are in operation at 15 Agencies. These facilities are augmented by services rendered by 83 licensed Stamp-Vendors. At the close of the year 197 letter-posting boxes were in use; these boxes are additional to those installed at Post Offices and Postal Agencies.

During the year under review the continued improvement in general trade conditions had its effect on the volume and value of business transacted by the Department. The estimated number of postal articles dealt with during the year was 55,673,410 representing an increase of 16 per cent. over the estimated number dealt with during 1935. These figures include official, ordinary, registered and insured articles, printed papers, commercial papers, sample packets and parcels.

Digitized by Google

Surface-borne mails to and from Europe were despatched and received weekly alternately by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and of the British India Steam Navigation Company (*viâ* India). The average number of days occupied in transit in each direction was 22. Besides these regular despatches, mails containing correspondence specially superscribed for transmission by ships of other lines were also made up and received.

The expansion of air mail services made rapid progress during 1936; the more important developments were (i) the inauguration on the 23rd March of a weekly service between Penang and Hong Kong by Imperial Airways craft, (ii) the duplication with effect from the 15th May of the weekly service by Qantas Empire Airways between Singapore and Australia. The Penang—Hong Kong Air Service is of particular importance to Malaya; apart from a nett saving of about 3 days over the surface transport of correspondence addressed to Hong Kong itself the new air link also affords an opportunity for despatching letters for China, Japan, Macao and the Philippine Islands, by air to Hong Kong thence by surface transport to destination, with a very considerable saving in time. The extensive use already being made of this service is ample testimony to the benefits it confers on the community at large.

Other developments worthy of note are the extension of the air mail money order service to Hong Kong, China, Japan, Macao and the Philippine Islands on the 28th March, the introduction on the 1st April of combined air and postage fees for letters and postcards to all places for which correspondence may be sent by air and the admission on the 8th May of Chinese Clubbed Packets (remittance letters) to the air mail service to Hong Kong.

The average weekly weight of mail despatched from Malaya to Great Britain by Imperial Airways Service showed a steady increase throughout the year; from 361 lbs. in January it rose to 390 lbs. in November. The heaviest mails during the year were, naturally, those despatched in December with their Christmas and New Year Greetings traffic; the three mails despatched during the period ending the 20th December totalled 1,616 lbs. as compared with 1,536 lbs. during the corresponding period in 1935.

(ii).—Money Orders

The value of money orders issued and paid during 1936 amounted to $9,492,650 as compared with $7,990,913 in 1935.

(iii).—Telegraphs

The number of postal telegraph offices in the Straits Settlements is 41. The Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company, Limited, owns and operates ten submarine cables radiating from Singapore.

The total number of telegrams sent and received in the course of the year was 685,886 an increase of approximately 2 per cent. on the 1935 figures.

The total value of telegraph business including Government Messages sent free of charge decreased from $213,519 in 1935 to $192,435 in 1936, a decrease of approximately 10 per cent.

The total numbers of Inland Greetings Telegrams handed in during the year were as follows:—

Christmas and New Year	633
Chinese New Year	225
Hari Raya Puasa	105
Deepavali	80

Digitized by Google

During the year the new service indication "NLT" was introduced, denoting Night Letter Telegrams Service (Foreign). This service at present operates between Malaya and Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Irish Free State and Hong Kong only. These telegrams generally follow the rules for Daily Letter Telegrams as regards charges and special services admitted except that the normal delivery will be on the morning after the day of handing in.

Satisfactory teleprinter (Telegraph) working was maintained on the main telegraph circuits throughout the year and, in continuation of the policy to eliminate morse working, the Penang—Ipoh morse circuit was replaced by Teleprinter.

The following morse circuit was converted to Telephone—Telegram working:—

Penang—Kulim.

(iv).—Telephones

The number of telephones in service continues to increase and at the end of the year under review 1,739 direct exchange lines were connected to the Straits Settlements telephone system as compared with 1,670 at the end of 1935. These figures do not include lines in Singapore, where the telephone system is operated by the Oriental Telephone and Electric Company, Limited, under licence.

The total number of telephone instruments installed was 2,733 and other miscellaneous circuits numbered 133.

The nett revenue derived from telephones during the year was $375,919, an apparent decrease of $290 as compared with 1935. This apparent decrease was due to a reorganisation of the telephone accounting system involving collection of rentals for shorter periods in advance. There was in fact an increase in revenue. Included in the 1936 revenue figure above is $142,915 derived from trunk and junction services representing an increase of $8,986 over the previous year.

The Department now maintains 18 telephone exchanges for public service. There are three general types namely—

(*a*) Twelve Manual Exchanges. All switching at these exchanges is performed by operators.

(*b*) Four Full Automatic Exchanges. Subscribers connected to these Exchanges obtain their own local connections by dialling, and have access to an operator (usually at a remote exchange) for trunk and junction calls.

(*c*) Two Semi-Automatic Exchanges. Connections on these exchanges are set up by an operator at a remote exchange, to which the apparatus routes all calls. Subscribers are not provided with dialling devices and this type of working is practicable only at very small exchanges up to 10 lines.

Preparations were made for the installation in the Malacca district of several Rural Automatic Exchanges of an improved type which provides facilities for dialling numbers on remote exchanges, and for dialling through one exchange of this type to another connected "in tandem".

A new type of rural semi-automatic exchange equipment using relays only for making the necessary connections was also introduced for future use in sparsely populated areas. It has a capacity of 10 lines and requires to be connected to a "parent" manual exchange through which all calls pass.

Digitized by Google

Owing to general increase of traffic it was necessary to provide the following additional trunk and junction circuits during the year:—

Tampin—Malacca	...	...	1 Channel.
Parit Buntar—Nebong Tebal	...	...	1 ,,
Bukit Mertajam—S. Patani	...	...	1 ,,
Bukit Mertajam—Kulim	...	...	1 ,,
Bukit Mertajam—Penang	...	...	1 ,,

Radio-telephone services continued in operation between Malaya and—

(*a*) Java, Madoera and Bali.

(*b*) Philippine Islands. Zones I, II and III.

(*c*) North Sumatra.

(*d*) Macassar (Isle of Celebes).

(*e*) Siam (Bangkok only).

Preliminary arrangements were completed for a radio-telephone service from Malaya to Great Britain and other European countries *viâ* Java. The fee for a 3 minute call to Great Britain has been fixed at $51.

A reorganisation of the telephone accounting system has been arranged to take effect from the 1st January, 1937. The new system will provide for the payment of telephone subscriptions by monthly instalments, and for the provision of "phonogram" facilities for all subscribers.

(v).—Wireless

There are wireless stations at Paya Lebar (Singapore), Panaga (Province Wellesley), Christmas Island and Labuan.

The stations at Paya Lebar and Penaga are owned and controlled by Government, whilst the Christmas Island Station is owned and operated by the Christmas Island Phosphate Company. The station in Labuan is owned and operated by the Brunei Government.

Short and medium wave ship-to-shore services are carried out by the Paya Lebar and Penaga Stations. The latter station also performs the duty of aerodrome wireless station for the Penang aerodrome. In the event of landline interruption it is utilised for communication with Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur or Singapore as the case may be.

Paya Lebar carries out communication by means of short waves with Christmas Island and Kuching (Sarawak), and in the event of landline interruption communication is maintained with Penaga or Kuala Lumpur.

The British official wireless press is received at Penaga and distributed to newspapers in Malaya.

The British Malaya Broadcasting Corporation, which is a limited company authorised to provide Broadcasting Service for the Island of Singapore, had under construction throughout the year the station and studios required for this purpose. These were nearing completion at the end of the year and experimental broadcasts were due to start on 1st January, 1937. The Corporation proposes broadcasting on a medium wavelength of approximately 225 metres.

A temporary licence under which a limited broadcasting service had been carried out for some years in Singapore was terminated on the 31st December, in view of the impending commencement of the service by the British Malaya Broadcasting Corporation.

Digitized by Google

In Penang broadcasting was carried out throughout the year by the Penang Wireless Society, an amateur organisation.

The number of wireless receiving licences issued continued to increase rapidly. At the end of December the total number of licences in force was 3,859. There was a marked increase in the sales of British-made wireless broadcast receivers.

The fourth annual wireless exhibition held in Penang in December under the auspices of the Penang Wireless Society was opened by His Excellency the Governor and High Commissioner.

Direction Finding Stations were in course of installation at Penaga and Paya Lebar primarily for civil aviation services. These stations will be ready for operation early in 1937.

CHAPTER XI

A.—CURRENCY

The standard coin of the Colony is the Straits Settlements silver dollar. This and the half-dollar (silver) are unlimited legal tender. There are subsidiary 20 cent, 10 cent and 5 cent silver coins and a 5 cent nickel coin, which are legal tender up to two dollars. There are also copper cents, half-cents and quarter-cents, but the quarter-cent has practically disappeared from circulation. Copper coin is legal tender up to one dollar. Currency notes are issued in denominations of $10,000, $1,000, $100, $50, $10, $5 and $1. Notes of the first two denominations are used mainly for bankers' clearances.

During the War, and for some years after, notes for 25 cents and 10 cents were issued.

In 1906 the Currency Commissioners were empowered to issue notes in exchange for gold at the rate of $60 for £7, and by order of the King in Council gold sovereigns were declared legal tender at this rate, the sterling value of the dollar being thus fixed at 2*s.* 4*d.* Gold, however, has never been in active circulation in the Colony, and when Great Britain abandoned the Gold Standard during the War and again in September, 1931, the local currency automatically followed sterling, to which it is linked at 2*s.* 4*d.* to the dollar.

The Currency Commissioners may accept sterling in London for dollars issued by them in Singapore at a fixed rate of 2*s.* 4 3/16*d.* to the dollar, and *vice versa,* may receive dollars in Singapore in exchange for sterling sold in London at the rate of 2*s.* 3¾*d.* to the dollar. The exchange fluctuations in the value of the dollar may therefore vary between these two limits. Excluding subsidiary coins, the currency of the Colony in circulation at the end of the year consisted of $83,984,121.75 in notes and $2,985,813 in dollars and half-dollars, while there were still in circulation bank notes issued by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China to the value of $135,130 compared with $135,795 at the end of 1935.

At the beginning of the year the Currency Notes in circulation amounted in value to $77,122,486.25. There was a demand by the public for currency during the year and the consequent expansion in the note issue amounted to $6,811,100. Currency notes were also issued in exchange for silver current coin during the period under review, the result over the whole year being that on 31st December, 1936, the note circulation stood at $83,984,121.75.

Digitized by Google

It is a requirement of the law that a portion of the Currency Guarantee Fund, being not less than 2/5 ths of the notes in circulation, shall be kept in "liquid" form, *i.e.* in current silver coin in the Colony and in Cash on deposit in the Bank of England, Treasury Bills, Cash at call, or other easily realisable securities in London. The balance can be invested and is known as the Investment Portion of the Fund.

The liquid portion of the Currency Guarantee Fund held by the Commissioners at the end of the year against the note circulation amounted to $49,377,083.22, consisting of $10,393,665.91 in silver and $2,230,237.67 on deposit with the Government, held locally, and £4,287,870. 19*s*. 2*d*. in sterling and short-dated investments in London.

The investment portion of the Currency Guarantee Fund at the end of the year consisted of investments valued at $109,504,152.96.

The excess value of the Fund, including cash at Bank $27,547.26, over the total note circulation at the end of the year was $74,925,278.69, compared with an excess of $70,114,981.42 at the end of 1935.

There was a net issue by the Treasury of $178,098.95 in subsidiary silver coins during the year.

Excluding the amount held by the Treasury $10,543,604.55 was in circulation at the end of the year in subsidiary silver and $722,402.00 in currency notes of values less than $1. The value of notes below $1 in circulation at the end of 1934 was $723,459.20 and at the end of 1935 $722,824.50.

Sixteen million six hundred and sixteen thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven and a half notes to the value of $49,993,214.50 were destroyed during the year as against 15,655,945¼ notes to the value of $46,700,053.95 in 1935.

B.—BANKING AND EXCHANGE

The following Banks had establishments in the Colony during the year:—

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.
,, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.
,, Mercantile Bank of India, Limited.
,, P. & O. Banking Corporation, Limited.
,, Eastern Bank, Limited.
Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son (Bankers), Limited.
The Netherlands Trading Society (Nederlandsche Handel Maatschappij).
,, Banque de L'Indo-Chine.
,, National City Bank of New York.
,, Netherlands India Commercial Bank (Nederlandsch Indische Handelsbank).
,, Sze Hai Tong Banking and Insurance Company, Limited.
,, Bank of Taiwan Limited.
,, Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited.
,, Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation, Limited.
,, China and Southern Bank, Limited.
,, Kwong Lee Banking Company.
,, Lee Wah Bank, Limited.
,, United Chinese Bank, Limited.
,, Ban Hin Lee Bank, Limited.
,, Bank of China.

Digitized by Google

During the year under report the sterling demand rate (bank opening rates only) ranged between 2/4⅛ and 2/4. 1/16d. The higher rate was obtainable from March to the end of the year.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK

The number of depositors in the Savings Bank on the 31st December, was 44,937 as compared with 41,467 on the 31st December, 1935, an increase of 3,470. During the year 9,365 new accounts were opened while 5,895 accounts were closed.

The amount standing to the credit of the depositors on the 31st December was $10,319,033 as compared with $9,072,069 on the 31st December, 1935. The average amount to the credit of each depositor was $219 and $230 at the end of 1935 and 1936 respectively.

The book value of the investments held by the Savings Bank on the 31st December, was $12,219,605 and the market value of these investments according to the Stock Exchange quotations on the same date was $12,268,240.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1936 under the Fixed Deposit Scheme was 435 and the amount standing to their credit was $338,535.

C.—WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The standard measures recognised by the laws of the Colony are as follows:—

(a) Standard of Length, the Imperial yard.

(b) Standard of Weight, the Imperial pound.

(c) Standard of Capacity, the Imperial gallon.

Among the Asiatic commercial and trading classes Chinese steelyards (called "daching") of various sizes are generally employed for weighing purposes.

The following are the principal local measures used with their English equivalents:—

The chupak	... ...	equals	1 quart.
The gantang	... ...	,,	1 gallon.
The tahil	... ...	,,	1⅓ ozs.
The kati (16 tahils)	... ...	,,	1⅓ lbs.
The pikul (100 katis)	...	,,	133⅓ lbs.
The koyan (40 pikuls)	...	,,	5,333⅓ lbs.

CHAPTER XII

A.—PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works in the Straits Settlements are administered by the Director of Public Works, who is stationed in Singapore and is assisted by the Deputy Director and Head Office staff and the Government Architect and his staff. Work in each of the other Settlements is controlled by a local head or Settlement Engineer who corresponds with, and takes his instructions from Headquarters in Singapore, in all matters of major importance. The approved establishment of the Department includes twenty-six fully qualified European Engineers, four Architects, two Electrical Engineers, one Mechanical Engineer and one Quantity Surveyor.

Digitized by Google

During 1936 the total expenditure for Public Works in the Straits Settlements was $6,897,035.36 compared with $6,271,656.39 for the previous year. The details are shown in the following table:—

Head of Estimate	Expenditure	Settlement	Total Expenditure	Expenditure Extraordinary
	$ c.		$ c.	$ c.
Personal Emoluments	586,001.19	Singapore ..	4,341,553.33	3,149,640.61
Other Charges ..	154,339.09	Penang	672,980.94	311,253.53
Public Works Annually Recurrent ..	1,765,544.63	Province Wellesley	216,918.31	99,099.31
Public Works Extraordinary ..	4,356,253.04	Malacca ..	515,549.73	318,946.36
Work for Other Departments ..	34,897.41	Labuan ..	25,856.77	6,177.44
		Public Works for Rural Boards S.S.	1,124,176.28	471,135.79
Total ..	6,897,035.36	Total ..	6.897,035.36	4,356,253.04

Annually Recurrent Expenditure was as follows:—

	1935 $ c.	*1936* $ c.
Roads, Streets, Bridges and Canals	537,539 07	615,313 47
Buildings and Miscellaneous Works (including Sea and River Works)	1,191,976 78	1,150,231 16
	1,729,515 85	1,765,544 63

Expenditure under Public Works Extraordinary on reconstruction and special works under the heading Roads, Streets, Bridges and Canals was $404,392.11 in addition to the maintenance expenditure. The maintenance of 897 miles of road outside the Municipal areas cost $503,277.73 or $561.00 per mile.

Buildings and Miscellaneous Works.—The Extraordinary Expenditure under this heading amounted to $3,951,860.93 and the following important works were completed:—

(i) New Convict Prison, Changi, at a cost of $1,987,835.88 up to the end of 1936. This still left some extra-mural buildings to be erected.

(ii) One Class I and two Class III Quarters, Singapore, at a finished cost of $118,294.31.

(iii) The South-east Groyne at Malacca at a finished cost of $48,624.96

(iv) New Leper Camp, Pulau Jerejak, $78,278.00. Altogether 60 semi-detached huts for less serious cases were completed and occupied by 220 patients.

The following important works were in progress during the year:—

SINGAPORE

Civil Aerodrome.—On which the expenditure during the year was $2,043,965.68. This work of which the total estimated cost is $7,339,000.00 will be completed in May, 1937.

Supreme Court.—Estimated cost $1,577,000.00. The contract for the piled foundations was completed. It involved the driving of 789 piles

Digitized by Google

varying from 45 to 85 feet long. The plans of the superstructure were completed and tenders called in September. This is the first major building work for which the Bills of Quantities were prepared by the Public Works Department's Quantity Surveyor.

Beach Road Reclamation.—Estimated cost $988,900.00. This work is being carried out in combination with the dredging of the Seaplane Channel. 441,061 y.c. of dredgings were deposited during the year. The scheme will reclaim 47 acres of land along the seafront at Beach Road.

Province Wellesley. Extension of Water Supply.—During the year $52,302.14 was spent on this work bringing the total expenditure to the end of 1936 to $618,891.00 of a finished estimated cost of $850,000.00. Work was practically brought to a standstill in September by a grave disaster resulting in the loss of 15 lives.

Waterworks.—The Municipalities of Singapore, Penang and Malacca control their own water supplies which are up-to-date and excellent. Water can be drunk from the tap as safely here as in the leading towns in England. The various installations in the rest of the Straits Settlements are controlled by the Public Works Department and were well maintained throughout the year.

Electric Light and Power.—In Singapore and Penang, the Municipalities own and operate their own power stations. In Singapore an additional power station is owned by the Singapore Harbour Board. The Penang Municipality supplies current for Butterworth and Bukit Mertajam in Province Wellesley, on contract. In Malacca, a private Company supplies electricity in the Municipal area. Outside these areas the Public Works Department maintains small supplies and the total expenditure on these and the maintenance of the installations in Government Buildings in 1936 was $176,025.00.

Sewage.—In Singapore and Penang the Municipal Sewage systems are being gradually extended. As the new sewers are made available, Government Quarters and Buildings are connected up. Where no public sewers are available septic tank installations are relied on. The effluents of these are periodically analysed and give reasonably satisfactory results.

General.—At the beginning of the year the Public Works Department had 40 contracts in hand; 253 were entered into during the year and at the close of the year 38 were incomplete.

The annual estimates included 192 Special Service items of which 28 were deleted and to which 63 were added leaving a total of 227 to be carried out. Of these 173 were completed, 33 were started but remained unfinished and no start was made on 21. The difficulty of fixing sites was the major cause of unfinished or unstarted works.

B.—DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION

Penang Settlement.—The total area of land under cultivation with rice (*padi*) in the Settlement of Penang, including Province Wellesley, is about 40,000 acres. The work of the Department since it first began operations in this Settlement in 1933 has been mostly concerned with the restoration and improvement of drainage and irrigation of existing *padi* areas within the framework of already constructed roads and drainage systems. Eighty-five per cent. of the total area has now been brought under the control of the Department by the declaration of irrigation areas under the provision of the Irrigation Areas Ordinance.

Digitized by Google

Province Wellesley.—The principal areas in Province Wellesley are:—

Northern District—	
Penaga Area	6,800 acres
Sungei Dua Area	9,000 ,,
Central District—	
Sungei Kulim Area	3,500 acres
Kubang Semang Area	6,200 ,,
Southern District—	
Sungei Acheh Area	4,550 acres

The following is a very brief account of the work done and results obtained during the year and for more detailed information those who are interested should consult the Annual Report of the Drainage and Irrigation Department of the Colony of the Straits Settlements for the year 1935 and the Joint Annual Report of this Department for the F.M.S. and the Colony for 1936 by the Director, Drainage and Irrigation.

Penaga Area.—The total expenditure to the end of 1936 amounts to $15,511, the work comprising the improvements in drainage by clearing and regrading the two main outlet drains, namely the Sungei Tembus and the Sungei Lahar Endin, which take the waters of Bertam Estate through the *padi* area to the sea. The area between these two drains has been bunded and the main internal drain has also been cleared, graded and provided with a water-gate at its outlet.

During the 1935–36 season, 6,689 acres were planted in wet *padi* yielding an average of 415 gantangs an acre. This was slightly less than the previous year, but Mukim I, including the Alor Kedah Rice Lands which were protected in the north from sea water by a bund constructed in 1935, showed an increase, the average yield being 500 gantangs per acre.

Sungei Dua Irrigation Area.—This is the largest of the irrigation areas; practically the whole of the area was planted during the last season. The yield was on an average of 338 gantangs per acre and is less than that of the previous year. The area suffered greatly in common with the rest of the Province from extremes of drought and flood. Up to the end of 1936 one control gate was built on the Sungei Orang Puteh in the South-east corner, costing $950 and $7,000 has been spent on the initial clearing and regrading of streams which are now maintained in good condition.

Sungei Kulim Area.—During the year six drainage control gates were constructed on the various streams and drains flowing through the area to conserve the rain water during the *padi* season and to exclude tidal waters. Three thousand two hundred and fourteen acres were planted during the 1935–36 season yielding an average of 285 gantangs per acre. In the 1936–37 planting season drought persisted until early September, ploughing, sowing of nurseries and planting out were all delayed but a better crop is expected this season.

Investigations for a scheme for the irrigation of this area from the Sungei Kulim were continued throughout the year and provision has been made in the 1938 Estimates for the commencement of the work.

Kubang Semang Area.—A sum of $10,000 was entered in the 1936 Estimates to augment the supply of water to the area by the construction of a dam on the Sungei Kubang Semang. A site was chosen just below the road bridge near Kubang Semang village and during the year a sum of $6,107 was spent on the scheme including the construction of 1½ miles

Digitized by Google

of irrigation channel along the edge of the *kampong*, but it was not possible to bring the scheme into operation during the 1936–37 season.

The yield in the 1935–36 season was low owing to bad weather, being 282 gantangs per acre on a planted area of 5,100 acres.

Sungei Acheh Area.—The Sungei Acheh Area is essentially a part of the great Krian Rice Area from which it is separated only by the artificial barrier of the Boundary Road, and during the past three years the Krian Irrigation Works have been enlarged and augmented to supply the Acheh Area with full irrigation as on the Perak side. The cost of the work is estimated at $375,000 and is being borne in equal shares by the S. S. and Perak Governments.

A limited water supply was given from 1st July 1936 and it is expected that full supply can be given with Perak in the next season when the Ijok Diversion is completed. Four thousand acres of old *bendang* were planted in 1936 together with 220 acres in the reclaimed section along the Coast.

The main works upkept in the area were :—

676 chains of canals;
2,061 chains of drains;
500 chains of bunds;
2 regulators;
4 syphons;
8 watergates.

Tasek Junjong Irrigation Scheme.—The comparatively small *padi* area of 350 acres of Tasek Junjong is in the south district of the Province in a valley close to the Kedah boundary. Originally irrigation was obtained by the diversion of the river into an embanked canal containing several temporary timber dams constructed by the local planters. As the river is very liable to rise suddenly in flood, these dams offered a serious obstruction and when they burst, much damage was caused to the banks and crops by the sudden rush of water.

In 1935, a sum of $8,000 was entered in the Estimates for an irrigation scheme but investigation showed it advisable to amend the design of the headworks using a new type of gate specially suitable for the conditions at Tasek Junjong. A supplementary vote of $4,600 was approved in 1936 making a total of $12,600 available for the scheme.

During 1936, the headworks, a diversion channel to take the flood discharge, nearly a mile of new irrigation channel and four concrete drops have been constructed. In addition, 1½ miles of the original irrigation channels incorporated in the new scheme have been regraded and improved to conform with the new work.

It is expected that full irrigation will be given from the new works in the coming season.

Muda Bund.—The Muda Bund protects the agricultural areas north of the Prai River from flooding by the Muda River. There was no serious flood in the Muda River during the year.

Surveys were in progress throughout the year for the preparation of an extensive scheme to strengthen the whole of the bund from the Kedah boundary to the sea at an estimated cost of $165,000.

Penang Island.—The most important works carried out by the Department on Penang Island are in the Sungei Pinang and Sungei Burong areas.

Digitized by Google

Sungei Pinang Area.—During 1936, 4 miles of coastal bund and a large water-gate were constructed. The bund provides protection from sea water and an additional area of 260 acres previously inundated by sea water will be available for *padi*. The area comprising 1,450 acres is irrigated by a canal constructed some 15 years ago with an intake on the Sungei Pinang which, in the great landslide of November 1932, was buried in 6 feet of sand.

During the years 1935–36, a new intake has been completed and the canal regraded. The new intake was in commission throughout the season and an adequate supply of water was available at the lower end of the canal for the first time since its construction. The new intake and reconstructed canal also served for the first time the lands north of Jalan Kuala Sungei Pinang which were previously served by a seasonal dam in the Sungei Pinang and which obstructed drainage.

The total expenditure for the two years to the end of 1936 on these works was $17,473.

The most severe damage caused by the torrential flood of 1932 was the overwhelming of 120 acres of agricultural land and *kampong* land in 3 feet of sand brought down by the river which became completely silted up.

During the past three years the work of restoring the channel of the Sungei Pinang by training has been in hand and at the end of 1936 a total of $3,239 has been spent out of the original provision of $7,000 for this work.

Sungei Burong Area.—An irrigation scheme was completed in this area in 1935 and in 1936 a sum of $1,171 was spent in constructing a syphon under the main road to lead the water to the western portion of the area.

The following table is of interest as showing the extent of the employment of local Malay labour on drainage and irrigation works in the Settlement and which must have been a source of considerable help to the peasant during the slump when there were always men waiting for work.

Year	Total No. of names on check roll for year	Average No. of names per month	Maximum No. of names in any month	Total amount paid in wages for year
				$
1933 ...	873	87	104	3,970
1934 ...	3,108	259	403	26,611
1935 ...	3,737	311	533	33,810
1936 ...	4,876	406	737	43,396

Malacca Settlement.—In Malacca, 32,053 acres were planted with *padi* during the 1935–36 season producing an average yield of 406 gantangs per acre.

Very heavy rain was experienced over the whole of the Settlement during October and severe flooding occurred on almost all the *sawahs*. Fortunately, nearly all the *padi* was too advanced to be damaged, and it is estimated that only some 300 acres in the whole Settlement were really affected.

Digitized by Google

The following have been declared irrigation areas under Ordinance 38 of 1934:—

	Acres of Existing and Potential Padi Areas
Malacca River Valley—Bachang	1,480
Tanjong Minyak	2,700
Sungei Putat	960
Chohong	430
Parit China	2,000

Bachang Area.—This erstwhile swamp of nearly 1,500 acres which has been made fit for padi cultivation is slowly but steadily being taken up, 388 acres having been alienated at the end of the year.

Tanjong Minyak Area.—In the adjoining area of Tanjong Minyak of which all but 300 acres have been rendered fit for cultivation, the irrigation works functioned satisfactorily throughout the year. Since the completion of the irrigation scheme in 1933, better distribution of the water has been obtained by additional canals and better drainage, which has brought in a further 270 acres in the mukim of Bukit Rambai. There is a steady demand for land, the increase in area of alienated land since the provision of irrigation amounting to 280 acres.

During the year, a sum of $7,200 was spent in repairs to damage to the headworks caused by the heavy flood which occurred in July, 1935.

Sungei Putat Area.—The Sungei Putat Irrigation Scheme is the second largest irrigation scheme undertaken by the Department in Malacca and the result of the irrigation service undertaken in 1934 and 1935 has been to benefit 960 acres of land of which 510 were planted with *padi* previously.

Parit China Area.—The controlled drainage scheme at Parit China embracing some 2,500 acres of land situated in the mukims of Padang Temu, Ujong Pasir, Semabok, Bukit Piatu, Bukit Bharu and Bukit Katil, functioned satisfactorily throughout the year and the crop obtained shows an average of 379 gantangs per acre. There is a steady demand for land and an additional 210 acres have been alienated since the scheme was completed.

Chohong Area.—The scheme, completed in 1933 at a cost of $9,145 was for the improvement of existing *sawahs* and did not bring in any fresh areas. The total cultivable area is 430 acres of which 330 acres are at present planted with *padi.*

Each year since the work was completed water for irrigation has been supplied during the whole planting season. This year planting was rather late, but in spite of this, yields well up to the average are expected.

In the Merlimau Forest Reserve, digging of a drain 2 miles long has resulted in 450 acres of erstwhile swamp being made suitable partly for padi and partly for general cultivation. On the completion of the drain in July 1935, land was taken up by 81 settlers who concentrated chiefly on their land for general cultivation, only 15 acres of *sawah* being planted that year. In 1936, however, a further 40 acres of *sawah* have been planted and a good crop is anticipated.

An item of $60,000 has been entered in the 1937 Budget for the provision of a controlled drainage scheme at Duyong.

The scheme comprises the construction of a tidal control gate about half a mile upstream of the Singapore Road, and the deepening, widening

Digitized by Google

and bunding of 4½ miles of the river above the new gate. The complete scheme, estimated to cost $85,000, will improve some 1,665 acres of existing *sawah* which has not at present adequate drainage and will provide improved drainage for 1,980 acres of jungle swamp for the cultivation of *padi*.

During the year a scheme has been prepared and an item of $37,000 has been entered in the 1937 Budget Proposals for permanent irrigation service to 1,480 acres of *sawah* in the Jasin District between Kemendore and Chin Chin.

The 12-inch pump at Merlimau, which was installed in 1935 to augment the water supply to 200 acres of *sawah* previously dependent on rainfall, was required to operate on 32 days during last season. In past years when the rainfall has been inadequate, the yield fell to as low as 53 gantangs per acre as compared with the yield this last season of 573 gantangs per acre.

Malacca River Conservancy.—Due to various causes, chiefly the clearing of natural vegetation in its catchment area, the Malacca River has deteriorated and it was estimated that of 7,059 acres of potential *sawah* in the valley of the Malacca River only 920 acres were planted each season and these were liable, at least in part, to be damaged by flood. A scheme estimated to cost $200,000 for the dredging from the river of the accumulation of coarse silt above Malim has been in hand since 1935.

The scheme aims at lowering the normal water level by 3½ feet at Durian Tunggal effecting a general improvement of the drainage of the whole valley between Sungei Malim and Belimbing. The dredging is being carried out by means of a mechanical excavator mounted on a steel pontoon and it is estimated the work will take five years to complete.

Dredging commenced in December 1935 and during the year the machine has excavated 66,090 cubic yards measured after consolidation.

CHAPTER XIII

Justice, Police, Prisons and Reformatories

A.—JUSTICE

The Courts Ordinance *(Chapter 10)* provides for the following Courts for the administration of Civil and Criminal law—

(*a*) The Supreme Court;
(*b*) District Courts;
(*c*) Police Courts;
(*d*) Coroners' Courts.

In addition to these a Court of Criminal Appeal, to hear appeals from convictions had in trials at assizes, was created under the provisions of an Ordinance passed in 1931 which was brought into force on 1st September, 1934.

The Supreme Court is composed of the Chief Justice and three or more Puisne Judges. It is a Court of Record, and consists of—

(*a*) the High Court which exercises original criminal and civil jurisdiction, and appellate criminal and civil jurisdiction in cases tried in District and Police Courts; and
(*b*) the Court of Appeal which exercises appellate civil jurisdiction in cases tried in the High Court.

Digitized by Google

An appeal may lie from the Court of Appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

Criminal trials at Assizes are held before a Judge sitting with a jury of seven persons.

A District Court, presided over by a District Judge and having both civil and criminal jurisdiction is constituted in each of the two Settlements of Malacca and Labuan. In Singapore, Penang and Province Wellesley, however, where the work of the courts is much heavier, there are two District Courts, one for civil and the other for criminal cases. The civil jurisdiction of a District Court is limited to suits involving not more than $500, when a District Judge presides and $100 when an Assistant District Judge presides.

Police Courts exist in varying numbers in each Settlement, the Governor having power to constitute as many Police Courts in each Settlement as he thinks fit. The jurisdiction of the Police Courts is, in the main, criminal, and is regulated by the Criminal Procedure Code, but certain additional powers and duties are conferred upon them by other Ordinances.

Coroners' Courts exist in each Settlement; a Coroner is appointed by the Governor either for the whole Settlement or for a district thereof.

The Courts Ordinance also provides for the appointment of Justices of the Peace. Justices of the Peace are not Courts and have no power to try cases.

The Criminal Procedure of the Colony is governed by the Criminal Procedure Code while Civil Procedure is governed by Rules of Court made under the Courts Ordinance. Civil Procedure in District Courts is governed by certain portions of the Civil Procedure Code which was repealed by the Courts Ordinance with a proviso that the provisions of the said Code relating to proceedings in the District Courts shall continue to apply to such proceedings until superseded by District Court Rules which may be, but have not yet been, made under the Courts Ordinance.

B.—POLICE

(i).—ORGANISATION

The Straits Settlements Police Force is organised on a territorial basis. Each Settlement is in the charge of a Chief Police Officer, whose command is divided into a number of territorial divisions and departmental branches superintended, in most cases, by gazetted officers. In Penang and Malacca, the Chief Police Officer is responsible directly to the Inspector-General for the whole of the Police arrangements of the Settlement. In Singapore the Chief Police Officer performs similar duties, but in addition there are the following independent branches:—

(*a*) The Special Branch which is almost wholly absorbed in work of a political kind and is not concerned with the investigation of any crime that is not of a political or subversive nature. This branch is the central investigating and recording machine for the Colony in all matters of the type with which it is designed to deal and in Settlements other than Singapore operates largely through the local Chief Police Officers and the Detective Branches.

(*b*) The Depôt at which recruits for the Settlements of Singapore, Penang and Malacca are concentrated. The Commandant of the Depôt is responsible directly to the Inspector-General for

Digitized by Google

recruiting men for the uniformed branch of the Malay, Indian and Chinese Contingent in Singapore and for all training schemes. The Chief Police Officers in Penang and Malacca select their own recruits and each Chief Police Officer selects his own plain clothes men.

(*c*) The Financial Branch.

Working in direct liaison with the Police are the Deputy Public Prosecutors in Singapore and Penang, officers of the Attorney-General's department who are in immediate charge of the Police prosecuting staffs in the lower criminal courts. The Deputy Public Prosecutor at Singapore includes the Settlement of Malacca in his jurisdiction.

(ii).—Crime

Seizable offences, after regularly decreasing in number during the years 1930 to 1934, shewed a pronounced increase in 1935, when 5,538 reports were admitted: this increase was repeated during the current year, when 5,731 admitted reports were recorded, Singapore and Penang accounting for the higher figure. No alarm need be occasioned by these increases, however, as crime during the slump years reached an abnormally low level, while the present day figure is well below the pre-slump average.

Arrests were effected in 2,699 cases and convictions obtained in 2,132 of them, while at the end of the year 249 cases were awaiting disposal.

Outstanding variations between 1935 and 1936 seizable crime figures occur in the case of murders, which rose from 21 to 33; attempted murders, which decreased from 16 to 5; robberies of all kinds, which fell from 95 to 67; serious cases of causing hurt, rising from 372 to 445; thefts and thefts in dwellings combined, which increased by 385 to a total of 2,987; housebreaking and thefts which at 646 shewed a rise of 24%; and illicit possession and concealment of arms and explosives which almost doubled themselves, the figures being 26 and 51.

Admitted reports of non-seizable offences fell to 109,185 from the 1935 figure of 113,004. Figures under this heading vary from year to year in the several Settlements in a most erratic manner, which is usually ascribable to outbursts of Police activity in dealing with offences under the Minor Offences, Municipal, Traffic Regulations, Merchant shipping and similar ordinances.

Of the large number of non-seizable offences reported, the great majority fall within the provisions of the half-a-dozen ordinances named below, the numbers of reports dealt with being shewn:—

	1935	*1936*
Chandu Revenue	1,175	2,423
Merchant Shipping	5,619	7,235
Municipal	47,814	43,479
Traction Engines and Motor Cars ...	8,037	8,826
Traffic Regulations	13,420	11,523
Minor Offences	17,937	16,426

Under the less prominent headings, there was a decrease from 64 to 38 in non-seizable forgeries and a remarkable increase in cases under the Weights and Measures Ordinance, the figures being 332 and 865.

The total value of property reported lost as the result of criminal activities was $610,597.33, of which property valued at $94,331.10 was recovered by the Police. More than 50% of the total was lost as the result of robberies and criminal breach of trust.

Digitized by Google

Illegal secret societies provided the usual quantum of petty quarrels and fights but on the whole conditions were quiet. The Teo Chiu groups were at peace with each other, as were the Hokkien, but they clashed with each other and with the Cantonese. The last named have for a number of years been responsible for the majority of violent crimes due to society and gang activity; figures are given below:—

	1933	*1934*	*1935*	*1936*
Armed Gang Robbery ...	6	2	5	2
Gang Robbery ...	1	—	—	—
Armed Robbery ...	23	10	14	5
Simple Robbery ...	15	1	2	1

Inter-gang feuds were responsible for three murders and one case of voluntarily causing grievous hurt with a dangerous weapon. In 1935 the figures were two murders and one attempted murder. Firearms were used on two occasions during 1936 as compared with nine during the previous year.

The year produced no really outstanding crimes.

Detective 35, Mohamed Ali, was stabbed to death by members of a communist "protection squad" which was operating to guard the activities of slogan writers in their endeavours to incite to lawlessness Municipal Tamil coolies who were on strike. The culprits are known, but, despite the offer of a substantial reward for information, sufficient evidence is not forthcoming to bring them to book.

A serious case of acid throwing occurred in Malacca in which a whole family consisting of husband, wife and two young children were the victims. The husband and one child succumbed to their injuries.

Singapore and Penang were free from cases of arson, but four cases of suspected arson occurred in Malacca, all involving properties of small value. Revenge was the governing factor in all of them.

A new and ingenious method of counterfeiting local currency was brought to light when a very up-to-date and complete plant was seized in Singapore. The method employed was to smooth the reverse sides of quarter and half cent copper coins, sweat silver foil on to them and then die stamp them to represent 10 and 20 cent pieces. All concerned were arrested and convicted.

In December, 1935, a local bank despatched 70,000 guilders to Batavia made up in three parcels. On arrival it was found that one of the parcels, which should have contained 41,085 guilders, consisted of torn pages of the Malayan Directory. Early in the course of investigation suspicion fell on a clerk employed in the bank, but sufficient evidence was not forthcoming to enable action to be taken. Patient enquiries continued: in July, 1936, the suspect was arrested and eventually pleaded guilty to the theft. The modus operandi employed was the substitution of a dummy parcel.

C.—PRISONS

At the beginning of the year, there were 961 prisoners in the five prisons of the Colony (Singapore, Penang, Malacca, Labuan and Christmas Island). Admissions during the year numbered 15,633, as compared with 13,828 during 1935 and 15,634 prisoners were discharged, leaving 960 in the prisons at the end of the year. There were 82 vagrants in the Houses of Detention

Digitized by Google

at the beginning of the year, and during the year 841 more were admitted, but 814 vagrants were discharged leaving only 109 under detention when the year closed. The health of the prisoners was maintained in a satisfactory state throughout the year.

"Short-sentence" and "Revenue-grade" men are mainly employed at husk-beating and on fatigue duties. "Lower-grade" prisoners are usually employed on husk-beating during the first six months of their sentence but thereafter join the "Middle-grade" and "Upper-grade" prisoners in industrial labour such as printing, book-binding, tailoring, carpentry, washing, weaving, shoe-making or mat and basket-making. Cooks, orderlies, clerks and such are selected from among the upper-grade prisoners when possible. Remission of sentence may be earned by good behaviour by prisoners sentenced to penal servitude, rigorous imprisonment or simple imprisonment for terms of three months and over.

Juvenile offenders are kept separate from adult prisoners so far as accommodation will permit and, under Section 290 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the Courts may, in their discretion, release on probation any offender convicted of trivial offences.

The building of a new Convict Prison at Changi, 11½ miles from Singapore town, which was started in 1934, has been completed this year and was gazetted as a Prison on 24th December, 1936.

D.—REFORMATORIES

The Reformatory at Singapore, is the only institution in Malaya specially organised for the reception of juvenile offenders. It is under the control of the Director of Education and is not in any way connected with the Prisons Administration. Juvenile offenders and destitute male children between the ages of seven and sixteen are admitted. No boy is detained in it beyond the age of eighteen.

At the end of 1935 the inmates numbered 99. Forty-two were released and forty-seven admitted during 1936. At the end of 1936 there were 104 inmates.

Of the 47 boys admitted during the year, 31 were from the Straits Settlements, 13 from the Federated Malay States, one from the Unfederated Malay States and two from Sarawak. There were 26 Chinese, seven Malays, 13 Indians and one Eurasian. Forty-one were committed for criminal offences including fraudulent possession of property, housebreaking, cheating, voluntarily causing hurt and theft, there being 25 cases of the last mentioned offence. Of the remainder, five were committed for vagrancy and one as being uncontrollable.

The conduct of the boys was excellent and their health was very good. They were employed as carpenters, tailors, grass-cutters, gardeners, washermen, cooks, orderlies and general coolies. They were all taught Malay in Romanised script for 1½ hours daily, with the exception of 11 who had their education in English. Muslim boys were given religious instruction. The chief forms of exercise insisted upon or indulged in were physical drill, football, volley ball, cricket and boxing.

So far as was possible work was found on their release for boys who had no parents, relatives or friends to look after them, or arrangements were made for their adoption by respectable persons recommended by the Chinese Protectorate.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER XIV

Legislation

Forty-one Ordinances were passed during the year 1936. Of these, two were Supply Ordinances, twenty-nine Amending Ordinances and the rest were new Ordinances.

The following are the more important—

(1) The Silver Jubilee Fund (Singapore) Ordinance and the Silver Jubilee Fund (Singapore) (Amendment) Ordinance (Nos. 1 and 5) provide for the administration of a Fund raised partly by public subscription and partly by grants made by the Government of the Colony and by the Municipal Commissioners of Singapore. The Fund is to be devoted for the relief of distress among persons of all races, all creeds, all classes and all ages within the Settlement. The Fund was raised as a permanent Memorial of the Silver Jubilee of His late Majesty King George V.

(2) The Penang and Province Wellesley Jubilee Fund (Amendment) Ordinance provides that both the Government and the Municipality should have power to nominate some of the General Committee as since the Penang and Province Wellesley Jubilee Fund Ordinance (Chapter 176) was passed the Government and the Municipal Commissioners have made considerable contributions to the Fund.

(3) The Advocates and Solicitors (Amendment) Ordinance alters the procedure for hearing complaints of professional misconduct made against solicitors. The Ordinance provides that complaints shall be made in the first place to the Bar Committee. If the Bar Committee considers that there shall be formal investigation of such complaint the Committee shall apply to the Chief Justice to appoint a Disciplinary Committee which shall hear and investigate such complaint. If the Bar Committee does not consider that the complaint alleges facts constituting misconduct it shall on the request of the complainant give its reasons in writing and the complainant may apply to the Chief Justice to appoint Disciplinary Committee.

If after hearing and investigating such complaint the Disciplinary Committee is of opinion that due cause exists for disciplinary action under section 25 the Disciplinary Committee shall proceed to make application in accordance with section 26D.

(4) The Traction Engines and Motor Cars (Amendment) Ordinance—A substantial portion of the revenue of the Colony is derived from a tax on petrol. The increasing use of heavy oil engines in motor vehicles threatens a serious loss to revenue. This Ordinance imposes a special tax on heavy oil engined vehicles with a view to preventing this loss.

(5) The Rubber Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance creates a Rubber Fund common to all administrations in Malaya.

The Fund is to be devoted solely to paying the cost of rubber administration and for the benefit of the rubber industry generally.

Digitized by Google

(6) The Tin and Tin-ore Restriction (Amendment) Ordinance.—The total amount of tin which may be exported from tin-ore won in the Colony is 57 tons in any one year. Fifty-seven tons of tin is the normal yield of 77 tons of tin-ore. This Ordinance makes it clear that there is no restriction on opening a new mine provided that the total amount of tin-ore won does not exceed the maximum of 77 tons in any one year.

(7) The Revised Edition of the Laws (Annual Supplements) Ordinance.—The Annual Supplements for which this Ordinance provides will be in themselves revised editions of all Ordinances passed after the date up to which the Revised Edition of the Laws had been brought. The Revised Edition published in September, 1936, contained the local Ordinances amended to 31st December, 1935. The Annual Supplement for 1936 will be the Ordinance for that year. The Annual Supplement for 1937 will be the Ordinances for 1936 and 1937 any two Ordinances amending the same principal Ordinance being consolidated.

Thus if an Ordinance is enacted in 1936 which is amended in 1937 and again amended in 1938 and further amended in 1939, the Annual Supplement published in 1940 will contain one consolidated Ordinance which will be the Ordinance as enacted in 1936 incorporating all the amendments made respectively in 1937, 1938 and 1939.

(8) The Cattle Protection Ordinance is intended to provide for the preservation of female buffaloes. There has been considerable slaughter of female buffaloes in Malacca as in some other parts of Malaya, and grave fears are entertained that the quantity and quality of buffaloes will become seriously impaired. The Ordinance forbids, except under permit, the slaughter and export of these animals.

(9) The Penal Code (Amendment) Ordinance conforms with the Convention done at Geneva on the 20th day of April, 1929 for the punishments imposed for offences in respect of domestic and foreign currency.

(10) The Registration (Amendment) Ordinance enacts a provision wherein the Ordinance can at any time be suspended. The principal Ordinance as passed is one which is, like other Ordinances in continual operation, which is considered unnecessary.

(11) The Youthful Offenders' Reception (Amendment) Ordinance.—As Sarawak has not yet got a Reformatory School of its own this Ordinance enables youthful offenders from Sarawak to be removed to a Reformatory School in the Colony.

(12) The Electric Lamp and Electric Appliances Ordinance. This Ordinance requires that electric lamp bulbs shall be of a certain standard and shall have stamped upon them particulars which will indicate to the purchaser the type of goods he is buying and prohibits the sale of lampholders and switches which are not adequately insulated.

It has been found that lamps of an inferior type and fittings which are dangerous to the user are on sale in the Straits Settlements and this Ordinance is designed to safeguard the public against those abuses.

Digitized by Google

(13) The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Ordinance. The Navigation of small mechanically propelled trading craft in the ports of the Colony is a menace to the safety of life and property when such craft are not in charge of a competent helmsman or steersman with a knowledge of the rule of the road or sea. This Ordinance requires such craft to be provided with competent steersman, and, if they are over ten tons, with competent engineers.

(14) The Federated Malay States (Title to Property) Ordinance.—This Ordinance vests in the High Commissioner for the Malay States the lands in the Colony held by the Chief Secretary to Government, F. M. S. as the latter office is vacant and it is proposed to abolish the post. The Ordinance also confers upon the High Commissioner the powers and privileges heretofore exercised by the Chief Secretary.

(15) The Corporations Duty (Amendment) Ordinance imposes a duty in lieu of estate duty upon property which, if held by an individual would be liable to estate duty. The Ordinance is so amended as to bring it into accord with the English Act by imposing duty on the annual value of property, out of which no income or profit arises.

(16) The Tea Control Ordinance provides for the control over the production of tea by restricting, planting and prohibiting the export of tea seed.

(17) The Post Office Savings Bank Ordinance. Prior to the enactment of this Ordinance the Post Office Savings Bank law was comprised in certain sections of the Post Office Ordinance (Chapter 71). It is desired to separate the Savings Bank law from other Post Office law as has already been done in the Federated Malay States.

This Ordinance follows closely a model Ordinance prepared by the Secretary of State; and, in order to secure throughout the Malayan Postal Union as close a degree as possible of uniformity in law and procedure in this matter, a parallel Ordinance has been passed in the Federated Malay States.

(18) The Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance. The totalisator or parimutuel and sweepstake of racing clubs have been taxed for some time. The present Ordinance proposes a similar tax on sweepstakes conducted by any other club, association or society.

The Ordinance also permits the Commissioner to receive the duty in cash instead of in adhesive stamps if he so desires.

CHAPTER XV

Public Finance and Taxation

The Revenue for the year 1936 amounted to $35,124,137.43 which was $1,622,373.43 more than the original estimate of $33,501,764 and $1,314,562.43 in excess of the revised estimate of $33,809,575.

The Expenditure was $33,398,912.22 being $2,550,058.78 less than the original estimate.

The year's working resulted therefore in a surplus of $1,725,225.21.

Digitized by Google

(i).—Revenue

The Revenue was $83,757.21 more than that of 1935. Details are shewn in the following table:—

Heads of Revenue	1935	1936	Increase	Decrease
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
1. Port Harbour, Wharf and Light dues ..	2,494.98	2,467.74	..	27.24
2. Licenses Excise and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified ..	23,367,218.55	22,727,578.73	..	639,639.82
3. Fees of Court or Offices, payments for Specific Services and Reimbursements in Aid ..	1,390,589.75	1,448,173.51	57,583.76	..
4. Posts & Telegraphs ..	2,200,135.16	2,353,111.02	152,975.86	..
5. Rents on Government Property ..	1,765,439.32	1,824,829.58	59,390.26	..
6. Interest ..	5,442,377.04	5,481,920.78	39,543.74	..
7. Micellaneous Receipts ..	766,598.77	1,143,231.90	376,633.13	..
Total exclusive of Land Sales and Grants-in-Aid	34,934,853.57	34,981,313.26	686,126.75	639,667.06
8. Land Sales and Premia on Grants ..	96,475.22	139,545.60	43,070.38	..
9. Grants-in-Aid Colonial Development Fund ..	9,051.43	3,278.57	..	5,772.86
Total Revenue ..	35,040,380.22	35,124,137.43	729,197.13	645,439.92

The decrease under the heading "Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified" is chiefly due to decrease under the following sub-heads:—

	$ c.
Liquors	141,853 53
Opium	380,227 84
Stamp Duties (Various Revenue Services) ...	38,948 59
Tobacco	76,974 79
	638,004 75

The increase in Fees of Court, etc., arises mainly from the following sub-heads:—

	$ c.
Contribution by Rockefeller Foundation towards salaries of Professors of Biochemistry and Bacteriology	23,154 89
Survey Fees	17,514 74
Widows' and Orphans' Pensions, Contributions, Fines, etc., on account of	12,254 32
Reimbursement of Cost of Audit Various External Bodies (New item)	68,070 00
Cost of Printing Recoverable (New item) ...	5,635 70
Contribution by Malayan Establishment Office towards the cost of Audit (New item) ...	3,150 00
	129,779 65

Digitized by Google

There are decreases under the following sub-heads:—

	$ c.
District and Police Courts including Marine ...	17,482 37
Contribution from Rubber Fund	56,370 23
Contribution by Federated Malay States on account of Joint Services	14,641 09
	88,493 69

The increase under Posts and Telegraphs is attributed to:—

	$ c.
Money Orders and British Postal Orders ...	11,887 66
Sale of Stamps	130,174 37
Miscellaneous	23,416 40
	165,478 43

There is a decrease under the sub-head:—

	$ c.
Telegrams	21,393 29

The increase under Rents, etc., is distributed between:—

	$ c.
Lands	30,639 38
Telok Ayer Reclamation	30,401 00
	61,040 38

The increase under Interest is due to the following sub-heads:—

	$ c.
Interest on Loans and Advances	211,057 38
Interest on Opium Revenue Replacement Fund ...	13,180 67
	224,238 05

The following items under this head shew decreases:—

	$ c.
Interest on Bank account	17,263 56
Interest on Opium Purchase Money Outstanding	164,817 00
	182,080 56

The increase under Miscellaneous Receipts is apportionable as follows:—

	$ c.
Court Deposits unclaimed	19,573 17
Overpayments Recovered	50,106 93
Royalty on Phosphate	17,382 96
Retrocession of the Dindings to Perak ...	86,850 00
Investments Adjustment Account (Revaluation of Investments)	92,241 03
Miscellaneous	106,836 58
	372,990 67

Digitized by Google

(ii).—EXPENDITURE

Particulars of Expenditure are set out below:—

Head of Expenditure	1935	1936	Increase	Decrease
	$	$	$	$
1. Charge on account of Public Debt	37,083.40	37,083.40	..	..
2. Pensions, Retired Allowances and Gratuities, etc. ..	2,380,901.86	2,418,746.72	37,844.86	..
3. Charitable Allowances ..	70,793.78	68,063.80	..	2,729.98
4. The Governor ..	114,283.51	131,780.43	17,496.92	..
5. Malayan Civil Service ..	523,571.33	518,366.21	..	5,205.12
6. Straits Settlements Civil Service	15,022.42	8,390.96	..	6,631.46
7. General Clerical Service ..	1,154,074.50	1,181,967.24	27,892.74	..
8. Colonial Secretary, Resident Councillors and Residents ..	120,741.70	119,672.99	..	1,068.71
9. Secretary to High Commissioner	10,947.10	11,344.08	396.98	..
10. Malayan Establishment Office	* 10.25	..	..	* 10.25
11. Agricultural Department ..	83,307.42	84,642.31	1,334.89	..
12. Analyst	49,114.49	53,267.12	4,152.63	..
13. Audit	41,042.74	110,807.17	69,764.43	..
14. Chinese Secretariat ..	67,711.31	66,163.94	..	1,547.37
15. Co-operative Societies ..	26,009.87	26,353.13	343.26	..
16. Drainage and Irrigation ..	312,613.89	265,421.82	..	47,192.07
17. Education	2,002,648.12	2,170,691.93	168,043.81	..
18. Excise Department ..	1,137,021.39	1,113,841.73	..	23,179.66
19. Fisheries	34,267.61	77,081.09	42,813.48	..
20. Forests	60,655.46	56,263.62	..	4,391.84
21. Gardens, Botanical ..	118,834.42	123,118.50	4,284.08	..
22. Immigration, and Passports ..	56,450.58	61,093.88	4,643.30	..
23. Labour Department ..	18,668.17	29,311.80	10,643.63	..
24. Land and District Offices ..	249,596.73	232,794.58	..	16,802.15
25. Legal	407,717.77	407,769.15	51.38	..
26. Marine	543,219.01	492,833.74	..	50,385.27
27. Marine Surveys	77,140.08	67,899.54	..	9,240.54
28. Medical	369,730.95	407,299.24	37,568.29	..
29. Medical, Health Branch ..	539,752.81	560,146.25	20,393.44	..
30. Medical, Social Hygiene Branch	91,658.13	102,822.15	11,164.02	..
31. Medical, Hospitals and Dispensaries	2,241,750.78	2,310,389.85	68,639.07	..
32. Military Expenditure—				
I. Defence Contribution ..	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	..	..
II. Local Forces ..	431,002.59	435,074.98	4,072.39	..
33. Miscellaneous Services ..	6,285,218.90	3,921,890.15	..	2,363,328.75
34. Museum and Library, Raffles ..	49,448.97	44,324.63	..	5,124.34
35. Police	2,779,143.86	2,868,294.47	89,150.61	..
36. Post Office	1,723,651.80	1,821,303.88	97,652.08	..
37. Printing Office	218,092.94	243,218.21	25,125.27	..
38. Prisons	431,971.24	423,570.92	..	8,400.32
39. Public Works Department ..	632,864.57	655,805.94	22,941.37	..
40. Public Works, Recurrent Expenditure	1,140,701.32	1,110,294.02	..	30,407.30
41. Public Works, Extraordinary	3,443,384.91	3,881,930.61	438,545.70	..
42. Statistics	95,987.39	80,513.43	..	15,473.96
43. Survey Department ..	364,577.62	361,316.43	..	3,261.19
44. Transport	18,318.69	18,473.76	155.07	..
45. Treasury	128,943.32	150,370.18	21,426.86	..
46. Veterinary	60,081.50	64,339.52	4,258.02	..
47. Grants-in-Aid Colonial Development Fund	4,929.55	2,762.72	..	2,166.83
TOTAL ..	34,764,640.25	33,398,912.22	1,230,798.58	2,596,526.61

* Expenditure Credit

Digitized by Google

The increase in "Pensions, Retired Allowances, Gratuities, etc.", is due to increased provisions in the votes "Superannuation Allowances Police Pensions", "Gratuities to Officers not entitled to pension", "Special Pension privileges beyond the scope of the Pension Law", "Pension outside the provision of the Pensions Ordinance" and "Allowances to the Descendants of the late Sultan Hussein".

The increase under "Governor" is mainly due to the purchase of a Ford Truck, the purchase of a Siddeley Special Limousine and the purchase of Furnishings, etc.

The decrease in "Malayan Civil Service" is due to vacancies and deletions.

The decrease in "Straits Settlements Civil Service" is due to the transfer of one member to the post of Assistant District Officer, Butterworth and the appointment of two probationers late in the year.

The increase in "General Clerical Service" is due to the incidence of increments and to a number of new appointments approved during the year.

The increase under "Government Analyst" is mainly due to the difference of duty salaries provided for duty posts, normal increments to staff, two new additional appointments and the purchase of a Refrigerator under Special Expenditure.

The increase under "Audit" is mainly due to the contribution from the Malayan Establishment Office and the reimbursements by various External Bodies, Straits Settlements, in respect of the cost of audit, being credited to Revenue instead of expenditure credits.

The decrease under "Drainage and Irrigation" is mainly due to the completion of certain major works under special expenditure in 1935, for which no provision appears in the 1936 Estimates.

The increase under "Education" is due to increments, the filling of vacancies and an increase in the Grants-in-Aid.

The decrease under "Excise" is mainly due to smaller quantities of materials being purchased in 1936 on account of lower rate of production of bulk and packed chandu.

The increase under "Fisheries" is primarily due to the purchase of the brine freezing vessel, expenditure of docking, fuel, stores, repairs, etc. and to more research and investigation work being carried out.

The decrease under "Forests" is mainly due to the deletion in the 1936 Estimates on account of the retrocession of the Dindings to the Perak Government.

The increase under "Gardens, Botanical" is mainly due to the transfer of Vote "Upkeep of Residency Grounds (P)" to the Gardens in 1936 and to an increase in the Special Expenditure Vote.

The increase under "Immigration and Passports" is due to annual increments of staff and to an increase in the vote "Reimbursement of Passport Revenue to Immigration Fund".

The increase in the "Labour Department" is principally due to expenditure under the heading "Repatriation of decrepit and unemployed Indian Immigrants" and to the fact that the Malayalam Clerk of Penang Office was transferred to the Straits Settlements Establishment from 1st January, 1936.

The decrease under "Land and District Offices" is partly due to the deletion of the Dindings from the 1936 Estimates on account of the retrocession to the Perak Government and also to the decrease in the special expenditure vote "Resettlement M.".

Digitized by Google

The decrease under "Marine" is mainly due to the fact that there was less Special Expenditure in 1936 as compared with 1935.

The decrease under "Marine Surveys" is mainly due to the leave salaries of European Officers being met from Malayan Establishment Funds.

The increases under "Medical General" Health Branch, Social Hygiene Branch, Hospitals and Dispensaries are mainly due to increases in the Personal Emoluments and other charges votes.

The increase under "Local Forces Military Expenditure" is mainly due to additional expenditure on the Straits Settlements Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve in 1936.

H.M.S. "Laburnam" was put into commission only in June 1935 and therefore only seven months expenditure was included in the figures for 1935.

The decrease under "Miscellaneous Services" is mainly due to the following large payments being made in 1935 :—

	$ c.
Cost of acquisition of the site of Europe Hotel ...	1,315,000 00
Government Contribution to Singapore and Penang Jubilee Fund	1,050,000 00

The decrease under "Museum and Library, Raffles" is due to an European Officer being on leave.

The increase under "Police" is mainly due to an increase in the personnel, and also in the Other Charges and Special Expenditure votes.

The increase under "Post Office" is mainly due to normal increments in Personal Emoluments and to Special Expenditure on the following votes :—

(i) New Carrier System between Kuala Lumpur and Singapore Colony Share.
(ii) Provision of 8-Channel Voice Frequency Telegraph Equipment.
(iii) Telephone and Telegraph Equipments.

The increase under "Printing Office" is mainly due to the Special Expenditure "Purchase of Machinery, Materials, etc." for printing the Straits Settlements Laws.

The decrease under "Prisons" is mainly due to vacancies on the European Warders Establishment not being filled.

The increase under "Public Works Department" is mainly due to the additional appointments of Aviation Officer, Senior Assistant Architect and Quantity Surveyor being made in 1936.

The decrease under "Public Works Recurrent Expenditure" is mainly due to the costs of all dredging works in the Seaplane channel being charged to the Singapore Aerodrome Vote under Public Works Extraordinary.

The increase under "Public Works Extraordinary is due to the return to better times and to a larger programme of Public Works being authorised and carried out.

The decrease under "Statistics" is mainly due to less expenditure in 1936 as compared with the 1935 Special Expenditure votes.

The increase under "Treasury" is mainly due to the appointment of a Collector of Estate Duty and to the filling of the appointments of Office Assistant in Penang and Malacca.

The increase under "Veterinary" is mainly due to the creation of new appointments in Singapore and Malacca in 1936.

Digitized by Google

(iii)—ASSETS AND

The Assets and Liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December, 1936

	$ c.	$ c.
Liabilities		
Deposits:—		
Accountant-General (Court)	2,135,711.42	
Accountant-General (Other)	2,200,178.00	
Bankruptcy	853,349.13	
Mercantile Marine Fund	765,890.16	
Police Reward Fund	2,787.83	
Savings Certificates Fund	55,120.00	
Companies Liquidation Account	244,476.86	
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	85,721.15	
Miscellaneous Singapore (including Labuan and Christmas Island)	2,865,191.65	
Miscellaneous Penang and Districts ..	440,691.27	
Miscellaneous Malacca and Districts ..	88,929.75	
F.M.S. Agency	59,063.60	
		9,797,116.82
Drafts and Remittances	..	36,282.12
Suspense Account — Coins for reminting, etc. ..	2,188,087.67	
Interest, Currency Commissioners ..	..	
Other items	6,312,951.72	
		8,501,039.39
Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund ..	..	61,160,386.42
Surplus	..	72,954,595.82
Total ..	..	152,449,414.57

The Surplus on 31st December, 1936, amounted to $72,954,595.82 of which approximately $51.47 millions were liquid. Against this, commitments on loans already approved to public bodies in the Colony and to other administrations amounted to $5,888,875 and contingent liabilities to public bodies amounting to $5,881,252. In addition the estimated deficit on the Budget for 1937 amounting to $2,928,344 and further commitments amounting to $4,165,532 had to be met. The total commitments and contingent liabilities on 1st January, 1937, against the Surplus thus amounted to $18,864,003.

Digitized by Google

LIABILITIES

were as follows:—

Assets	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Cash:—			
Cash in Treasuries	4,558,232.93		
Cash in Banks	6,000,146.78		
Cash with Crown Agents	48,460.96		
		10,606,840.67	
Cash held in Kuala Lumpur		66,000.00	
Cash in Transit		88,149.01	
Joint Colonial Fund (Crown Agents) ..		1,971,428.57	
Fixed deposits (Colony)		4,923,000.00	
Fixed deposits (Accountant-General) ..		508,900.00	
			18,164,318.25
Suspense Account Other items		..	7,446,245.93
Suspense Stores Account, P.W.D.		..	132,195.13
Investments (Surplus Funds):—			
Sterling Securities		37,474,733.12	
Dollar and Rupee Securities		915,375.05	
			38,390,108.17
Investments (Specific Funds):—			
Accountant-General (Court)		919,242.12	
Accountant-General (Other)		1,691,100.00	
Bankruptcy		710,445.52	
Mercantile Marine Fund		737,024.46	
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund		73,865.00	
Miscellaneous		1,535,686.41	
			5,667,363.51
Investments Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund		..	61,160,386.42
Advances			
Boards:—			
Education		8,500.55	
Hospital		733.07	
Building Loans		609,735.79	
Other Governments		37,987.58	
Postal Stores		300,000.00	
Sinking Fund, Singapore Harbour Board ..		1,823,921.08	
Miscellaneous		331,970.00	
			3,112,848.07
Imprests		..	2,228.93
Loans:—			
	$ c.		
Municipality, Singapore	190,629.65		
Municipality, Penang	100,000.00		
Municipality, Malacca	317,373.47		
		608,003.12	
Kelantan Government		5,005,683.98	
Trengganu Government		3,500,000.00	
Singapore Harbour Board		6,477,131.30	
Penang Harbour Board		2,614,457.30	
Mohamedan and Hindu Endowment Board, Penang		51,750.00	
Tanglin School at Cameron Highlands ..		13,300.00	
Penang Sports Club		25,000.00	
S.S. War Service Land Grants Scheme ..		78,394.46	
			18,373,720.16
Total ..		..	152,449,414.57

Digitized by Google

(iv).—Public Debt

The indebtedness of the Colony in respect of the loan raised by the issue of 3½% Straits Settlements Inscribed Stock under the provision of Ordinance No. 98 (Loan) amounted on the 31st December, 1936 to £6,913,352 of which the equivalent in local currency is $59,257,302.

The expenditure upon Services in respect of which this loan was raised is as follows:—

	$
Singapore Harbour Board	47,720,526
Penang Harbour Board	2,093,974
Municipal Commissioners, Singapore	4,484,460
Municipal Commissioners, Penang	1,250,000
Government Harbour Works	320,137
	55,869,097
Loan Extension and cost of conversion (1907) less interest received	3,388,205
	59,257,302

The charge on account of interest on, and expenses of this loan was $2,085,817 in 1936. This charge is, however, borne by the Singapore Harbour Board and other bodies to whom portions of the loan have been allotted. The value of the Investments of the Sinking Fund of this loan on the 31st December, 1936 was $23,136,593.

In August it was decided to redeem this loan on 15th May, 1937 and with this object in view a local loan of $30,000,000 bearing 3% interest redeemable on 15th April, 1972 was issued on 15th October. The issue was oversubscribed to the extent of over $1 million. The total cost of the issue including brokerage, management and redemption amounted to $75,000 *i.e.* ¼ of one per cent. The loan will be managed by the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

The proceeds of the conversion loan will be allocated entirely to the Singapore and Penang Harbour Boards which will bear all charges for interest and Sinking Fund. The Municipalities agreed to pay off the balance of their shares of the 3½% loan after deducting the Sinking Fund and have then no interest in the conversion loan.

The Straits Settlements 6% Inscribed Stock 1936 to 1951 amounting to $44,185,714.29 (£5,155,000) was redeemed from 1st December, 1936 on the issue of the Federated Malay States 3% 1956/1966 Local Loan of $15,000,000.

(v).—Taxation

Revenue from taxation is mainly derived from duties on liquors, tobacco and petroleum imported into and consumed in the Colony, and from the profits on the Government opium monopoly. The other main items are Stamp Duties, Estate Duties and Pawnbrokers' Licenses which are issued to successful tenderers on payment of a monthly rent for a period of three years.

The yield from direct taxation is small and all of it obtained from Licenses.

The total revenue under the main head of Duties, Taxes and Licenses for the year 1936 was $22,727,578.73 forming the greater portion of the

Digitized by Google

Colony's Revenue and the yields under the principal items were as follows:—

	$	c.
Liquor Duties	3,231,933	17
Opium Revenue	8,360,384	81
Pawnbrokers' Licenses	719,932	00
Petroleum Revenue	3,191,198	51
Stamp Duties (Various Revenue Services) ...	925,013	40
Estate Duties	1,230,169	39
Tobacco Duties	4,269,996	46

The only fiscal measures approximating to a customs' Tariff is the imposition of duties on Liquors, Tobacco and Petroleum imported into and consumed in the Colony. Excise revenue is comprised principally of the revenue from the Opium Monopoly and from duties on intoxicating liquors manufactured in the Colony. In the latter case the duties are seven-tenths of the amounts prescribed for imported liquors of a similar brand. The only liquor manufactured locally which is subject to this duty is samsu and beer. In addition the Government itself controls most of the manufacture and sale of toddy, but the revenue is so far unimportant.

Stamp duties are imposed on all documents required to be stamped under the provisions of the Stamp Ordinance 1929. The principal duties are:—

Agreement under hand only	25 cents.
Bill of Exchange including Promissory Note ...	5 cents for every $100 or part thereof.
Cheque	4 cents.
Conveyance	$1.50 for every $250 or part thereof.
Mortgage	$1 for every $500 or part thereof.
Receipt	4 cents.

A Betting Tax was introduced with effect from 1st January, 1932 and the amount collected in 1936 was Singapore $259,752.50 and Penang $84,332.

CHAPTER XVI

Miscellaneous

A.—PRINCIPAL LANGUAGES

Malay, as well as being the language of the Malay inhabitants of the Colony, is also, in a modified form, the language spoken in the homes of many of the other settlers, particularly in Malacca.

Early Muslim traders, the Portuguese, the Dutch and the English have all used and spread it as a *lingua franca* so that it has become, in a much debased form, the language of the shop and the market for the Colony's cosmopolitan population. Signs are not lacking, however, that it is gradually being superseded by English as the language of commerce.

Digitized by Google

Malay, as well as the languages of such immigrants to the Straits Settlements as the Bugis from the Celebes, Sundanese, Madurese and Javanese, and the Minangkabau people of Sumatra, belongs to the western branch of the Austronesian family which covers an area from Formosa to New Zealand and from Madagascar to Easter Island. Even within this western branch, however, languages differ more widely than English from Dutch or French from Italian.

With Islam the Malays adopted the Persian form of the Arabic alphabet, but there is a growing literature in romanised script.

The Chinese languages spoken in the Straits Settlements are those of the districts in the South of China, principally in the Kwangtung and Fukien Provinces, from which the immigrant Chinese population is almost entirely drawn.

Figures based on the Census for 1931 shew the extent to which the various languages are spoken to be:—

Hokkien 43·2%; Cantonese, 21·4%; Tiu Chiu, 17·4%; Hakka (Kheh), 7·9%; Hailam, 5·4%; Hok Chhia, 1·5%; Hok Chiu, 1·3%; and other dialects, 1·9%.

Nine-tenths of the Indian population are Southern Indians practically all of whom speak one or other of the Dravidian languages, Tamil, Telugu, or Malayalam. Of these the vast majority (over 90%) speak Tamil.

The rest of the Indian population consists mainly of Northern Indians, whose principal languages are Punjabi, Bengali and Hindustani. There are also a few hundred natives of the Bombay Presidency, who speak Gujerati and Mahrati, and a negligible number of Burmese and Nepalese.

B.—LAND TENURE

Singapore.—Land in the hands of private owners in Singapore is held direct from the Crown either by lease or grant. The earliest of the existing titles are the leases for the term of nine hundrd and ninety-nine years issued for land in the town soon after the founding of Singapore.

The first lease issued for a period of ninety-nine years, for land in the town, dates back to 1838.

From 1845 onwards a large number of grants in fee simple was issued for land outside the limits of the town, though for town lands the issue of leases for ninety-nine years still continued. The margin allowed for the expansion of the town was, however, insufficient, with the result that land in the most densely crowded part of the present town is occasionally found to be held under titles which were originally acquired for agricultural purposes.

After the transfer of the Settlements to the control of the Colonial Office in 1867 the titles issued for land both in town and country were leases for terms of 99 or 999 years, but Ordinance No. II of 1886, now the Crown Lands Ordinance *(Chapter 113)*, introduced a statutory form of Crown Title, the present Statutory Land Grant, which is a grant in perpetuity subject to a quit-rent and to various implied conditions and covenants which before the passing of the Ordinance had to be expressly provided for in the document of title itself. This Statutory Grant became then, and until recently continued to be the usual form of title issued but the policy now is to restrict the issue of grants in perpetuity, substituting as far as possible leases for terms not exceeding ninety-nine years.

Digitized by Google

Penang.—Land in Penang and Province Wellesley is held from the Crown under Grant in fee simple, Statutory Grant or lease. The conditions of tenure vary according to the policy of the Government at the time the documents were issued. Unoccupied Crown Land is now ordinarily alienated under lease.

Malacca.—The tenure of a considerable portion of the land in Malacca Town has remained unchanged since the days of Dutch rule. Possession is evidenced in many cases by documents of title in Dutch. The remainder of the land in the Town is mostly held under Crown leases for 99 years, but there are a few leases for 999 years and a few Statutory Grants. Alienated land in the country is generally held under Statutory Grants or leases from the Crown for 99 years, but small holdings owned by Malays are held under Customary tenure as defined by the Malacca Lands Customary Rights Ordinance *(Chapter 125)*. This is a small number of grants in fee-simple, both in town and country areas.

Labuan.—Land in Labuan is held in accordance with the provisions of the Labuan Ordinance *(Chapter 6)* and is alienated ordinarily by public auction. Titles are normally leases, for the term of 999 years or less; and, since 1919, leases for not more than 30 years have been granted. There are some titles which are redemptions of titles issued under a former system.

Throughout the Colony.—Temporary occupation of Crown Land is possible under licence for periods not exceeding a year at a time, and similar temporary occupation licences, as well as leases, may be issued for foreshore and sea bed under the provisions of the Foreshores Ordinance *(Chapter 122)*.

C.—CO-OPERATION

There was a general improvement in all types of Co-operative Societies during the year. In rural areas the improved prices for rubber and coconuts were reflected in the Credit Societies. The membership ceased to fall for the first year since the depression started in 1930. The paid-up share capital has started to rise again, as also have repayments of loans. The deposits made by members in the General Purposes Societies have increased and the members are making better use of their Societies. A General Purposes Society was formed at the end of the year amongst the inhabitants of the Malay Settlement, Singapore.

There was a big increase in the number, membership and capital of Societies amongst Indian labourers and further expansion may be anticipated, especially in Malacca.

The paid-up capital of the Salary Earner's Societies increased by $183,600 while the membership increased by 391. At the same time the amount of loans outstanding went down by $25,700 and the balance of deposits made by members in their Societies increased by $13,600. The general indications are that the financial position of salary earners who are members of Co-operative Societies improved during the year.

All Societies welcomed the loans floated by the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements Governments during the year and received substantial allotments in both.

Singapore.—The number of Societies for salary earners in Singapore rose from 21 to 23, membership from 6,717 to 7,091, subscription capital from $857,900 to $953,200 and investments in trustee securities from $585,100 to $788,900.

Digitized by Google

Societies for Indian labourers increased in number to 13 (one not working) with membership of 2,178 subscription capital of $86,884 and investments in trustee securities of $80,153, as compared with 11 Societies with membership of 2,347, subscription capital of $77,077 and investments amounting to $67,235 at the end of 1935.

Malacca.—There was very little change in the position of the eight Rural Credit Societies, the membership of which increased by 4 to 262 with share capital of $6,959. The holdings of the Societies in cash and in the Post Office Savings Bank came to $5,245.

The four Societies for salary earners increased their membership to 1,288 with subscription capital of $232,300 and investments amounting to $194,500, as compared with a membership of 1,219 with subscription capital of $211,700 and investments of $153,200 at the end of 1935.

Indian Labourers' Societies increased in number to 33 (three not working) with a membership of 5,319, subscription capital of $92,455 and investments of $90,301, as compared with 21 Societies with 4,427 members, subscription capital of $59,432 and investments of $48,194 at the end of 1935.

Penang and Province Wellesley.—The number of Rural Credit Societies remained unchanged. The five Societies had a membership of 112 with share capital of $3,523 and cash and deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank amounting to $3,139.

One new Society for salary earners was registered during the year. There were ten Societies with a membership of 3,782, subscription capital of $520,000 and investments of $407,300 at the end of the year as compared with nine Societies with membership of 3,834, subscription capital of $452,300 and investments of $290,000 at the end of 1935.

One Indian Labourers' Society was liquidated and seven new Societies registered during the year. The 20 Societies with a membership of 3,035 had subscription capital amounting to $58,975 and investments of $54,063 at the end of the year, as compared with the subscription capital of $38,951 and investments of $37,923 in the 14 Societies at the end of 1935.

D.—MUSEUMS AND GARDENS

The Raffles Museum and Library was an integral part of the Singapore Institution (later called the Raffles Institution) in 1823. In 1844, the Singapore Library, a proprietary concern, was established and in connection with this a museum was formed in 1849. The Government took over the Department, henceforth called the Raffles Museum and Library in 1874.

During the year under review the Museum continued to attract large crowds and it was estimated that 230,000 persons visited the exhibition galleries including the usual throng on the Chinese New Year holidays when the galleries were closely packed with people from morning to late afternoon. Except Sundays and a few public holidays such as Christmas Day when people, normally, do not wish to visit museums, the exhibition galleries were open to the public from 9 A.M. to 5.30 P.M. A number of striking additions to the ethnographical galleries much increased their popularity. The new features included a complete shadow-show from Kelantan. An important event was a temporary exhibition of Chinese porcelain. Fieldwork had a strong bias towards the excavation of prehistoric sites but some zoological work was also carried out. Nineteen papers were published concerning material in the Museum collections.

In the Raffles Library increases in all the important statistics have to be recorded, for the number of subscribers, the amount of the subscriptions

Digitized by Google

received and the number of books issued all reached new high levels. The number of subscribers was 1,880 and the revenue from subscriptions was $13,656. The total issue of books was 171,597 and 2,287 books were added to the Library.

The Botanic Gardens in Singapore were founded by a private society in 1858 and taken over by the Government in 1874. The total area is about 100 acres, including 12 acres of original forest. The Gardens provide both a public park, laid out on landscape lines, and a large named collection of plants of all kinds. Special attention is given to displays of ornamental plants, both local and introduced, which are suitable for general use in gardens, thus providing a practical demonstration to the local public interested in gardening. Many useful tropical plants are also represented. New introductions of plants from other countries, for trial purposes, are constantly made. During the past few years a considerable number of hybrid orchid seedlings have been raised, chiefly between species which are specially suited to local conditions, with the object of raising a greater variety of useful garden plants. During 1936 two of these hybrids, between white and red species of scorpion orchids, flowered for the first time, and give promise of being distinctive additions to the range of this group of plants.

The Waterfall Gardens in Penang were founded in 1884 and have a similar function to the Botanic Gardens at Singapore. They are very beautifully situated in a valley, with forest slopes rising above them. A new feature, the construction of which was largely completed in 1936, is a formal garden, representing an attempt to adapt modern ideas of garden design to a tropical setting and tropical plants.

The Botanic Gardens are also centres of research on the botany of Malaya, and perform a public function in disseminating information on that subject. Distinctive local plants are so far as possible displayed in the gardens and plant houses for the benefit of any visitors who may be interested in them. During 1936 classes for local school teachers on Malayan plant life, and on the systematic botany of Malayan plants, were held by a member of the botanical staff, at the request of the Education Department.

E.—EVENTS OF THE YEAR

The beginning and end of 1936 were marked by events of unusual significance. Few in this Colony will forget the sincere manifestations of personal loss that were exhibited by all members of the community when the news of the death of His Majesty KING GEORGE V. was received on the morning of the 22nd of January. The memory of His Majesty's Silver Jubilee was still a vivid one and grief at his passing was rendered all the more poignant by the recollection of that happy occasion. Memorial Services were held in all places of worship throughout the Colony and the official Service at the Singapore Cathedral was attended by such a large and numerous congregation that it was necessary to provide seating accommodation outside the building.

The proclamation of His Majesty KING EDWARD VIII. took place at the Municipal building on the 23rd of January. In accordance with custom on the demise of the Sovereign, the ceremony began with a procession in reverse order from the Government buildings to the place appointed. The proclamation was read by His Excellency the Governor in the presence of a large and distinguished assembly and the ceremony was timed to take place at 5.20 P.M. so as to synchronise with the actual ceremony in London itself. Detachments of the Services and of the local Forces took part and

Digitized by Google

were drawn up on the Padang in front of His Excellency. Translations of the proclamation were also read in Malay, Tamil and Chinese and after a prayer by the Bishop the procession was reformed in the proper order of precedence and returned to its starting place where it dispersed.

The new reign had barely begun when it was brought to an untimely conclusion by the King's abdication on the 10th of December, 1936. The Duke of York was proclaimed as KING GEORGE VI. in his stead and the ceremony of proclamation was similar in all respects to that of the 23rd of January except that there was no procession. It took place at 12 noon on the 12th of December, 1936. These events passed in an atmosphere of calm dignity and the manner in which they were received was a matter of admiration frequently expressed by leading members of the foreign communities.

In June the Colony was visited by a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State to investigate the whole question of Mui Tsai in Malaya and any surviving practice of transferring women or children for valuable consideration whether on marriage or adoption or in any other circumstances. The Commission spent some five weeks in Malaya in the course of its investigations and left for Hong Kong in July.

Sir THOMAS SHENTON WHITELEGGE THOMAS, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, proceeded to England on leave on the 26th April and Mr. A. S. SMALL, Colonial Secretary, officiated as Officer Administering Government until Sir SHENTON THOMAS'S return to Malaya on the 4th September. Meanwhile Mr. J. A. HUNTER acted as Colonial Secretary.

Major-General W. G. S. DOBBIE, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., General Officer Commanding the Troops, Malaya, was on duty throughout the year.

Commodore W. P. MARK-WARDLAW, D.S.O., M.C., R.N., Commodore-in-Charge, His Majesty's Naval Establishments relinquished his command on the 12th September and was succeeded by Commodore M. L. CLARKE, D.S.C., R.N. Air Commodore S. W. SMITH, O.B.E., was succeeded by Air Commodore A. W. TEDDER, C.B., as Officer Commanding the Royal Air Force (Far East) on the 11th November.

Units of the United States Asiatic Fleet, under the command of Admiral H. E. YARNELL, visited Singapore on the 16th November and remained until the 23rd November. Their arrival coincided with the visit of a Dutch naval squadron under the command of Commodore C. E. L. HELFRICH, which left on the 16th November. The German cruiser "Emden" commanded by Captain W. LOHMANN arrived at Singapore on the 11th December, and stayed until the 20th December. Her presence here evoked much interest, as she was the first German warship to visit Malaya since her famous predecessor's exploit at Penang in the early days of the Great War. The visit coincided with the proclamation of H. M. KING GEORGE VI. and in honour of the occasion the Emden fired a salute and her Commanding Officer was present at the proclamation ceremony.

New Year Honours contained the following awards:—

K.B.E. (Civil Division).—Mr. SONG ONG SIANG, C.B.E., V.D., M.A., LL.M.

M.B.E. (Civil Division)—Miss GERTRUDE OWEN.

M.B.E. (Military Division)—C.S.M. JOHN RHYS DANSON, D.C.M.

M.B.E. (Military Division)—Captain MOHAMED ALI BIN MAIDIN.

Medal of the O.B.E. (Military Division)—C.Q.M.S. H. A. L. ORCHARD.

Digitized by Google

Birthday Honours contained the following awards:—

Knight Bachelor—Mr. JOHN BAGNALL.

C.B.E. (Civil Division)—Mr. GEORGE PRESTON BRADNEY.

O.B.E. (Civil Division)—Mr. HORACE WALTER RAPER.

M.B.E. (Military Division)—Captain TAN SENG TEE.

Imperial Service Order—Captain NOOR MOHAMED HASHIM.

Honorary O.B.E. (Civil Division)—Reverend Mother TARCISIUS.

A. S. SMALL,
Colonial Secretary,
Straits Settlements.

SINGAPORE, 12*th July*, 1937.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX "A"

SELECTED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS

Title	Price	Publishers or Agents for Sale
Dominions Office and Colonial Office List	35/-	Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London.
Blue Book (Straits Settlements)	$6	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.
Annual Departmental Reports (Straits Settlements) ..	$6	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.
Census Report, British Malaya, 1931	$5	The Crown Agents for the Colonies and The Malayan Information Agency, London.
Malayan Year Book, 1936 ..	$1.50 3/6	Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., Singapore. The Malay States Agency, London.
Report by the Rt. Hon'ble W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit to Malaya, Ceylon and Java, 1928 ..	4/6	H. M. Stationery Office, London.
Economic Conditions in British Malaya to 20th December, 1934 (Hartland)	2/6	H. M. Stationery Office, London.
A Dictionary of the Economic Products of the Malay Peninsula (I. H. Burkill) 2 Vols. ..	30/-	The Crown Agents for the Colonies.
The Malayan Agricultural Journal	50*cts.*	Dept. of Agriculture, S.S. and F.M.S., Kuala Lumpur, F.M.S.
Malayan Forest Records ..	Various prices	Forest Department, F.M.S. and The Malayan Information Agency, London.
The Geology of Malaya, 1931 (J. B. Scrivenor)	16/-	Macmillan & Co., Ltd., London.
The Flora of the Malay Peninsula, 1925, 5 Vols. (H. N. Ridley) ..	£11-11-0	L. Reeve & Co., London.
Malayan Fishes, 1921 (C. N. Maxwell)	$1	The Malayan Branch, Royal Asiatic Society and Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore, S.S.
Oxford Survey of the British Empire, 1924. Vol. 2 (Editors: A. J. Herbertson and O. J. R. Howarth)	15/-	Oxford University Press, London.
One Hundred Years of Singapore, 1921, 2 Vols. (General Editors: W. Makepeace, G. E. Brooke, and R. St. J. Braddell) ..	out of print	John Murray, London.
One Hundred Years of the Chinese in Singapore, 1923. (Sir Ong Siang Song)	30/-	John Murray, London.
Handbook to British Malaya, 1935 (R. L. German) ..	2/6	J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd., London.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX *"A"—continued*

SELECTED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS—*continued*

Title	Price	Publishers or Agents for Sale
Historical Geography of British Dominions, Vol. 1. (C. P. Lucas)	not sold separately	Oxford University Press, London.
A History of Malaya (Sir Richard Winstedt)	$7.50	The Malayan Branch, Royal Asiatic Society, Singapore, S.S. and Luzac & Co., London.
British Malaya, 1824-1867. 1925. (L. A. Mills)	$3.50	The Malayan Branch, Royal Asiatic Society, Singapore, S.S. and Luzac & Co., London.
British Malaya, 1929. (Sir F. A. Swettenham)	12/6	J. Lane, London.
Papers on Malay Subjects. (Incidents of Malay life, Law, etc. Ed. by R. J. Wilkinson) ..	$1 each	Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., Singapore, S. S.
Malaya. The Straits Settlements, the Federated and Unfederated Malay States, 1923. Sir Richard Winstedt)	12/6	Constable & Co., London.
Report of the Wild Life Commission of Malaya, 1932, 3 Vols. ..	$12	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.
Report of Sir Samuel Wilson's visit to Malaya, 1932	50 *cts.*	H. M. Stationery Office, London.
Report of the Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor of the Straits Settlements to enquire into and report on the Trade of the Colony, 1933-1934, Vol. I	$5	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.
Report of the Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor of the Straits Settlements to enquire into and report on the Trade of the Colony, 1933-1934, Vol. IV. (Appendices)	$10	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX "B"

TABLE I

EXCESS OF FOREIGN ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES AT PRINCIPAL PORTS OF ENTRY, MALAYA, DURING THE YEAR, 1936

Race	By Sea							By Air			By Rail		By Road		Total
	Singapore	Penang	Malacca	Labuan	Port Swettenham	Perak (Teluk Anson)	Kelantan	Singapore	Penang	Kedah	Perlis	Kelantan	Perak	Kedah	
Europeans ...	2,073	849	7	13	34	...	1	18	− 24	2	−281	− 6	9	78	2,773
Eurasians ...	43	17	...	7	4	...	...	...	...	...	− 8	− 3	14	− 4	70
Japanese ...	342	24	..	8	...	...	...	25	− 2	...	4	2	17	9	429
Chinese ...	67,730	8,569	...	356	− 2,165	...	1	18	5	1	1,317	288	−1,094	775	75,801
Malays ...	1,664	− 1,016	...	153	17	− 10	1	4	− 1	...	182	− 5,402	−717	799	− 4,326
Northern Indians ...	783	1,273	11	5	− 86	..	...	8	...	...	257	− 154	− 42	6	2,061
Southern Indians ...	5,600	3,978	...	42	− 1,698	...	...	...	1	...	− 35	19	18	− 16	7,909
Others ...	510	− 1,168	...	− 62	21	...	2	− 1	...	...	223	− 2,058	− 6	631	− 1,908
Total ...	78,745	12,526	18	522	− 3,873	− 10	5	72	− 21	3	1,659	− 7,314	−1,801	2,278	82,809

Digitized by Google

TABLE II

COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR 1935 AND FOR THE YEAR, 1936 ARE:—

	By Sea							By Air			By Rail		By Road		Total
	Singapore	Penang	Malacca	Labuan	Port Swettenham	Perak (Teluk Anson)	Kelantan	Singapore	Penang	Kedah	Perlis	Kelantan	Perak	Kedah	
1935	96,134	21,471	3	533	12,363	42	– 5	– 28	2	– 13	1,446	–9,917	963	2,212	125,206
1936:—															
January ...	4,205	– 396	...	34	– 1,213	...	...	– 6	3	...	742	– 52	125	740	4,182
February ...	4,034	– 375	...	27	– 987	– 10	4	– 10	– 3	2	68	3,753	212	39	6,754
March ...	9,244	485	2	59	– 970	...	– 1	0	9	1	– 296	– 4,854	– 376	– 196	3,107
April ...	6,002	1,048	3	144	– 714	...	...	34	– 1	...	– 77	– 97	– 378	54	6,018
May ...	6,204	1,095	...	108	– 50	...	...	15	2	...	5	695	– 142	236	8,168
June ...	7,971	1,961	2	6	– 165	...	...	29	0	...	– 108	– 1,016	– 219	111	8,572
July ...	6,545	1,727	2	– 89	– 179	...	...	5	– 9	...	178	2,396	– 295	116	10,397
August ...	4,963	481	5	38	– 386	.	1	11	– 2	...	95	– 307	– 53	199	5,045
September ...	8,159	2,545	0	– 69	160	...	...	2	– 4	...	126	– 675	– 278	219	10,185
October ...	6,258	2,104	– 1	77	331	...	2	3	– 8	...	512	– 773	– 152	208	8,561
November ...	8,472	1,086	...	97	103	...	...	2	– 9	...	– 103	– 649	– 113	136	9,022
December ...	6,688	765	5	90	197	...	– 1	– 13	1	...	517	– 5,735	– 132	416	2,798
Total ...	78,745	12,526	18	522	– 3,873	– 10	5	72	– 21	3	1,659	– 7,314	– 1,801	2,278	82,909

Digitized by Google

TABLE III

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, DURING THE YEAR, 1936

ARRIVALS FROM

BY SEA

Race	The Netherlands Indies					China (2)					India (3)				
	M.	W.	Children (1)		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total
			B.	G.				B.	G.				B.	G.	
Europeans (4) ...	4,437	2,352	522	455	7,766	2,200	916	70	57	3,243	1,108	675	59	57	1,900
Eurasians ...	274	274	5	5	558	8	10	1	...	19	35	36	1	4	76
Japanese ...	585	101	55	34	775	91	19	4	2	116	93	14	3	3	113
Chinese ...	50,912	8,850	4,040	2,756	66,558	78,050	51,522	14,535	10,602	154,709	491	145	53	43	732
Malays (5) ...	20,953	7,981	3,731	2,966	35,631	16	7	1	1	25	249	34	10	12	305
Northern Indians ...	2,279	210	122	117	2,728	184	19	15	11	229	8,855	1,455	816	552	11,678
Southern Indians (6)	1,886	89	89	54	2,118	23	9	11	8	51	37,407	5,991	4,529	2,604	50,531
Others ...	484	63	31	24	602	24	3	...	...	27	151	62	16	14	243
Total ...	81,810	19,920	8,595	6,411	116,736	80,596	52,505	14,637	10,681	158,410	48,389	8,413	5,487	3,289	65,578

BY SEA

Race	Siam					Other Countries					Total				
	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total
			B.	G.				B.	G.				B.	G.	
Europeans ...	487	199	22	27	735	8,650	5,056	859	746	15,311	16,882	9,199	1,532	1,342	28,955
Eurasians ...	5	4	5	4	18	51	34	5	8	98	373	358	17	21	769
Japanese ...	48	4	2	1	55	1,089	340	89	93	1,611	1,906	478	153	133	2,670
Chinese ...	1,224	264	282	126	1,896	7,797	1,760	671	495	10,723	138,474	62,541	19,581	14,022	234,618
Malays ...	52	15	6	13	86	2,337	990	337	220	3,884	23,607	9,027	4,085	3,212	39,931
Northern Indians ..	113	10	1	10	134	712	49	37	31	829	12,143	1,743	991	721	15,598
Southern Indians	92	4	2	1	99	405	37	20	19	481	39,813	6,130	4,651	2,686	53,280
Others ...	131	153	30	33	347	1,130	198	90	27	1,445	1,920	479	167	98	2,664
Total ...	2,152	653	350	215	3,370	22,171	8,464	2,108	1,639	34,382	235,118	89,955	31,177	22,235	378,485

Digitized by Google

TABLE III—*continued*

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, DURING THE YEAR, 1936

ARRIVALS FROM

Race	BY AIR — Foreign Countries					BY LAND — Siam					Grand Total				
	M.	W	Children B.	Children G.	Total	M.	W.	Children B.	Children G.	Total	M.	W.	Children B.	Children G.	Total
Europeans ...	679	138	17	2	836	1,227	395	29	22	1,673	18,788	9,732	1,578	1,366	31,464
Eurasians ...	...	...	...	...	...	91	76	14	12	193	464	434	31	33	962
Japanese ...	47	2	1	...	50	145	13	3	2	163	2,098	493	157	135	2,883
Chinese ...	60	4	...	...	64	35,651	6,879	3,291	1,796	47,617	174,185	69,424	22,872	15,818	282,299
Malays ...	2	3	...	1	6	41,789	20,311	5,380	3,370	70,850	65,398	29,341	9,465	6,583	110,787
Northern Indians ...	14	...	...	...	14	2,285	151	113	38	2,587	14,442	1,894	1,104	759	18,199
Southern Indians ...	1	...	...	...	1	2,099	64	29	9	2,201	41,913	6,194	4,680	2,695	55,482
Others ...	7	1	...	...	8	10,857	6,375	2,385	1,256	20,873	12,784	6,855	2,552	1,354	23,545
Total ...	810	148	18	3	979	94,144	34,264	11,244	6,505	146,157	330,072	124,367	42,439	28,743	525,621

DEPARTURES TO

Race	BY SEA — The Netherlands Indies					China (2)					India (3)				
	M	W.	Children (1) B.	Children (1) G.	Total	M.	W.	Children B.	Children G.	Total	M.	W.	Children B.	Children G.	Total
Europeans (4) ...	4,675	2,463	446	448	8,032	1,471	917	86	57	2,531	1,164	810	61	55	2,090
Eurasians ...	255	265	3	4	527	5	6	...	...	11	26	40	6	4	76
Japanese ...	444	47	27	18	536	60	6	...	3	69	97	19	9	4	129
Chinese ...	49,404	8,274	2,981	1,800	62,459	50,254	18,589	9,589	6,475	84,907	553	137	36	23	749
Malays (5) ...	20,146	6,784	2,885	2,416	32,231	45	...	...	...	45	169	5	2	3	179
Northern Indians ...	2,014	159	85	38	2,296	79	3	1	1	84	8,206	1,109	723	468	10,506
Southern Indians (6)	1,521	63	49	21	1,654	51	4	3	2	60	31,913	7,125	2,462	1,593	43,093
Others ...	609	56	41	19	725	35	4	...	...	39	882	166	82	51	1,181
Total ...	79,068	18,111	6,517	4,764	108,460	52,000	19,529	9,679	6,538	87,746	43,010	9,411	3,381	2,201	58,003

Digitized by Google

TABLE III—*continued*

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, DURING THE YEAR, 1936

DEPARTURES TO

Race	BY SEA													
	SIAM					OTHER COUNTRIES					TOTAL				
	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total
			B	G.				B.	G.				B	G.	
Europeans ...	521	194	19	23	757	6,714	4,246	868	740	12,568	14,545	8,630	1,480	1,323	25,978
Eurasians ...	10	6	1	5	22	40	14	5	3	62	336	331	15	16	698
Japanese ...	41	1	...	...	42	882	360	145	133	1,520	1,524	433	181	158	2,296
Chinese ...	1,192	275	303	109	1,879	7,046	2,191	520	376	10,133	108,449	29,466	13,429	8,783	160,127
Malays ...	36	14	3	5	58	3,865	1,788	565	391	6,609	24,261	8,591	3,455	2,815	39,122
Northern Indians ...	149	12	13	0	184	455	48	27	12	542	10,903	1,331	849	529	13,612
Southern Indians	86	15	9	9	119	336	60	23	13	432	33,907	7,267	2,546	1,638	45,358
Others ...	178	233	65	58	534	669	99	82	32	882	2,373	558	270	160	3,361
Total ...	2,213	750	413	219	3,595	20,007	8,806	2,235	1,700	32,748	196,298	56,607	22,225	15,422	290,552

Race	BY AIR					BY LAND					GRAND TOTAL				
	FOREIGN COUNTRIES					SIAM									
	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total
			B.	G.				B.	G.				B	G.	
Europeans ...	689	143	4	4	840	1,311	544	17	1	1,873	16,545	9,317	1,501	1,328	28,691
Eurasians ...	...	...	...	...	...	88	85	14	7	194	421	416	29	23	892
Japanese ...	27	...	...	...	27	127	3	1	...	131	1,678	436	182	158	2,454
Chinese ...	35	4	1	...	40	34,964	6,744	2,946	1,677	46,331	143,448	36,214	16,376	10,460	206,498
Malays ...	1	2	...	...	3	45,012	21,175	6,012	3,789	75,988	69,274	29,768	9,467	6,604	115,113
Northern Indians ...	6	...	...	...	6	2,299	111	87	23	2,520	13,208	1,442	936	552	16,138
Southern Indians ...	...	...	...	...	...	2,085	66	49	15	2,215	35,992	7,333	2,595	1,653	47,573
Others ...	7	2	...	...	9	12,093	6,512	2,158	1,320	22,083	14,473	7,072	2,428	1,480	25,453
Total ...	765	151	5	4	925	97,979	35,240	11,284	6,832	151,335	295,042	91,998	33,514	22,258	442,812

Digitized by Google

TABLE III—*continued*

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, DURING THE YEAR, 1936

EXCESS (+) OR DEFICIT (−) ARRIVALS

BY SEA

Race	The Netherlands Indies					China (2)					India (3)				
	M.	W.	Children (1) B.	Children (1) G.	Total	M.	W.	Children B.	Children G.	Total	M.	W.	Children B.	Children G.	Total
Europeans (4) ...	− 238	− 111	76	7	− 266	729	− 1	− 16	0	712	− 56	− 134	− 2	2	− 190
Eurasians	19	9	2	1	31	3	4	1	...	8	9	− 4	− 5	0	0
Japanese	141	54	28	16	239	31	13	4	− 1	47	− 4	− 5	− 6	− 1	− 16
Chinese	1,508	576	1,059	956	4,099	27,796	32,933	4,946	4,127	69,802	− 62	8	17	20	− 17
Malays (5) ...	807	1,197	846	550	3,400	− 29	7	1	1	− 20	80	29	8	9	126
Northern Indians ...	26	51	37	79	432	105	16	14	10	145	649	346	93	84	1,172
Southern Indians (6)	365	26	40	33	464	− 28	5	8	6	− 9	5,494	− 1,134	2,067	1,011	7,438
Others	− 125	7	− 10	5	− 123	− 11	− 1	...	...	− 12	− 731	− 104	− 66	− 37	− 938
Total ...	2,742	1,809	2,078	1,647	8,276	28,596	32,976	4,958	4,143	70,673	5,379	− 998	2,106	1,088	7,575

BY SEA

Race	Siam					Other Countries					Total				
	M.	W.	Children B.	Children G.	Total	M.	W.	Children B.	Children G.	Total	M.	W.	Children B.	Children G.	Total
Europeans ...	− 34	5	3	4	− 22	1,936	810	− 9	6	2,743	2,337	569	52	19	2,977
Eurasians	− 5	− 2	4	− 1	− 4	11	20	0	5	36	37	27	2	5	71
Japanese	7	3	2	1	13	207	− 20	− 56	− 40	91	382	45	− 28	− 25	374
Chinese	32	− 11	− 21	17	17	751	− 431	151	119	590	30,025	33,075	6,152	5,239	74,491
Malays	16	1	3	8	28	− 1,528	− 798	− 228	− 171	− 2,725	− 654	436	630	397	809
Northern Indians ...	− 36	− 2	− 12	0	− 50	257	1	10	19	287	1,240	412	142	192	1,986
Southern Indians ...	6	− 11	− 7	− 8	− 20	69	− 23	− 3	6	49	5,906	− 1,137	2,105	1,048	7,922
Others	− 47	− 80	− 35	− 25	− 187	461	99	8	− 5	563	− 453	− 79	− 103	− 62	− 697
Total ...	− 61	− 97	− 63	− 4	− 225	2,164	− 342	− 127	− 61	1,634	38,820	33,348	8,952	6,813	87,933

Digitized by Google

TABLE III—*concluded*

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, DURING THE YEAR, 1936

EXCESS (+) OR DEFICIT (−) ARRIVALS

Race	BY AIR — FOREIGN COUNTRIES					BY LAND — SIAM					GRAND TOTAL (7) (8)				
	M.	W.	Children B.	Children G.	Total	M.	W.	Children B.	Children G.	Total	M.	W.	Children B.	Children G.	Total
Europeans	− 10	− 5	13	− 2	− 4	− 84	− 149	12	21	− 200	2,243	415	77	38	2,773
Eurasians	...	...	...	...	...	3	− 9	0	5	− 1	40	18	2	10	70
Japanese	20	2	1	...	23	18	10	2	2	32	420	57	− 25	− 23	429
Chinese	25	0	− 1	...	24	687	135	345	119	1,286	30,737	33,210	6,496	5,358	75,801
Malays	1	1	...	1	3	− 3,223	− 864	− 632	− 419	− 5,138	− 3,876	− 427	− 2	− 21	− 4,326
Northern Indians ...	8	...	...	...	8	− 14	40	26	15	67	1,234	452	168	207	2,061
Southern Indians ...	1	...	...	...	1	14	− 2	− 20	− 6	− 14	5,921	− 1,139	2,085	1,042	7,909
Others	0	− 1	...	...	− 1	− 1,236	− 137	227	− 64	− 1,210	− 1,689	− 217	124	− 126	− 1,908
Total ...	45	− 3	13	− 1	54	− 3,835	− 976	− 40	− 327	− 5,178	35,030	32,369	8,925	6,485	82,809

Notes:—

1. Children are under 12 (English) years of age.
2. China includes Hong Kong.
3. India includes Burma and Ceylon.
4. Europeans include Americans.
5. Malays include all natives of the Malayan Archipelago.
6. Southern Indians are natives of the Presidency of Madras and the States of Mysore and Travancore.
7. For movements *viâ* individual ports or land-routes, *see* monthly Return Statistics 3; for movements of deck passengers (Chinese, Javanese and Southern Indians) *see* monthly Return Statistics 13.
8. Net Arrivals, 1936: 82,809.
   Net Arrivals, 1935: 125,206.

Digitized by Google

TABLE IV

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF CHINESE, JAVANESE AND SOUTHERN INDIAN DECK PASSENGERS DURING THE YEAR, 1936

Race	SINGAPORE		PENANG		PORT SWETTENHAM		TOTAL		Net Arrivals during the year	NET ARRIVALS FOR THE YEARS 1934 AND 1935	
	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures		1934	1935
1. Chinese from and to China including Hongkong *(a)* ...	131,003	66,532	18,816	11,927	3	2,119	149,822	80,578	69,244	41,138	76,828
2. Javanese from and to Java *(b)* ...	66	28	...	...	...	...	66	28	38	– 459	– 6
3. Southern Indians from and to Presidency of Madras *(c)* ...	13,542	9,698	20,275	18,088	9,219	11,897	43,036	39,683	3,353	61,845	27,168
Total ...	144,611	76,258	39,091	30,015	9,222	14,016	192,924	120,289	72,635	102,524	103,990

(a) For Chinese: all deck passengers by all steamers.

(b) For Javanese: all labourers recruited for Malayan estates as reported by recruiting agencies and the Labour Department at Singapore.

(c) For Southern Indians: all deck passengers embarked and disembarked by British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers between Malayan Ports and Madras as reported by the Labour Department.

Digitized by Google

TABLE V

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF CHINESE DECK PASSENGERS FROM AND TO CHINA DURING THE YEAR, 1936

Port	Arrivals				Departures				Total Arrivals		Total Departures	
	Men	Women	Boys (a)	Girls (a)	Men	Women	Boys (a)	Girls (a)	1935	1936	1935	1936
Singapore	66,178	43,662	12,307	8,856	40,550	14,280	7,007	4,695	136,059	131,003	59,535	66,532
Penang	9,001	6,674	1,770	1,371	5,969	2,677	1,895	1,386	9,640	18,816	7,912	11,927
Port Swettenham ...	2	...	1	...	1,263	423	274	159	154	3	1,578	2,119
Total ...	75,181	50,336	14,078	10,227	47,782	17,380	9,176	6,240	145,853	149,822	69,025	80,578

(a) Under 12 (English) years of age

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX "C"

Nationality, number and tonnage of Vessels with cargo and in ballast and native craft of all tonnage (including their repeated voyages) which arrived and departed at the ports of the Straits Settlements during the year, 1936

Nationality	SINGAPORE						PENANG					
	MERCHANT VESSELS				MEN-OF-WAR		MERCHANT VESSELS				MEN-OF-WAR	
	Over 75 Tons Net		75 Tons Net and Under				Over 75 Tons Net		75 Tons Net and Under			
	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons
British ..	4,477	9,979,292	..	..	57	259,930	2,768	7,842,669	..	..	30	67,190
American ..	76	391,146	..	..	24	54,306	75	397,291	..	..	..	..
Belgian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chinese ..	188	109,658	..	..	..	..	14	20,978	..	..	..	..
Danish ..	192	659,040	..	..	..	..	92	358,228	..	..	..	..
Dutch ..	4,305	6,891,127	..	..	10	34,576	1,116	1,422,085	..	..	..	..
French ..	378	1,763,261	..	..	6	24,800	..	..	..	..	..	..
German ..	341	1,758,300	..	..	2	12,000	206	1,182,326	..	..	..	..
Greek ..	27	82,392	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian ..	120	726,014	..	..	..	..	8	29,376	..	..	..	..
Japanese ..	1,313	5,536,092	..	..	2	1,756	392	1,713,704	..	..	..	..
Norwegian ..	1,072	1,882,127	..	..	..	..	222	355,086	..	..	..	..
Panama ..	2	10,566	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Portuguese ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Polish ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian ..	38	68,498	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sarawak ..	171	87,828	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Siamese ..	302	181,369	..	..	6	3,260	..	..	..	..	4	1,916
Swedish ..	61	232,715	..	..	..	..	22	81,282	..	..	..	..
Yugoslavian ..	2	7,086	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	13,065	30,366,511	35,397	1,324,796	107	390,628	4,915	13,403,025	11,407	519,735	34	69,106
± 1935 ..	−530	+111,085	+2,217	+54,667	+17	+33,738	+81	+496,775	−569	−22,543	−34	−26,396

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX "C"—continued

Nationality, number and tonnage of Vessels with cargo and in ballast and native craft of all tonnage (including their repeated voyages) which arrived and departed at the ports of the Straits Settlements during the year, 1936

Nationality	MALACCA						LABUAN					
	MERCHANT SHIPS				MEN-OF-WAR		MERCHANT SHIPS				MEN-OF-WAR	
	Over 75 Tons Net		75 Tons Net and Under				Over 75 Tons Net		75 Tons Net and Under			
	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons
British ..	602	692,124	..	..	..	..	254	233,995	..	..	8	45,324
American ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chinese ..	48	19,512	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish ..	66	266,104	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dutch ..	30	89,406	..	..	..	..	4	1,512	..	..	..	..
Finnish ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
French ..	2	18,800	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
German ..	26	123,538	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Greek ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hungarian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Norwegian ..	182	147,910	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Panama ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sarawak ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	692	..	..	..	..
Siamese ..	10	7,880	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Spanish ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swedish ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	966	1,365,274	5,749	111,895	..	..	262	236,199	2,835	35,950	8	45,324
± 1935 ..	−54	−43,646	+262	−8,216	−1	−9,750	−24	−6,067	−146	+3,648	+2	+21,332

Note.—To the above figures must be added:—

(a) Christmas Island: total net tonnage arrived and departed during the year 1936 was 169,885 tons—an increase of 22,888 tons. (Including Men-of-War 10,000 tons).

The total tonnage of vessels arrived and departed at the Straits Settlements ports during the year 1936 was 48,038,328 tons or an increase of 627,515 tons as compared with the year, 1935. This comprised *(a)* merchant vessels 47,523,270 tons of which

(i) over 75 tons	45,530,894	tons
(ii) 75 tons and under and native craft ...	1,992,376	tons
(b) warships	515,058	tons
Total ...	48,038,328	tons

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps, [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. 0d. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent [illegible]ter Street

or through any

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoplesof the Coloniesand Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reportsare published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

(45723—48) Wt. 2642—3920 575 11/37 P. St. G. 377/7

S.O. Code No. 58—1812

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JV
33
G7
A3

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1811

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

NORTHERN RHODESIA

1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1721 and 1769 respectively (price 2s. 0d. each))

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937. [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1811

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

NORTHERN RHODESIA

1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1721 and 1769 respectively (price 2s. 0d. each))

Crown Copyright Reserved



LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent. Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 2s. 0d. net

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN RHODESIA, 1936

CONTENTS

Chapter.	*Page*
I.—Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.—Government	6
III.—Population	8
IV.—Health	9
V.—Housing	12
VI.—Production	13
VII.—Commerce	19
VIII.—Wages and Cost of Living	22
IX.—Education and Welfare Institutions	24
X.—Communications and Transport	27
XI.—Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	31
XII.—Public Works	32
XIII.—Justice, Police, and Prisons	33
XIV.—Legislation	35
XV.—Public Finance and Taxation	37
Appendix—Bibliography	42
Map	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The territory known as the Protectorate of Northern Rhodesia lies between longitudes 22° E. and 33° 33′ E. and between latitudes 8° 15′ S. and 18° S. It is bounded on the west by Angola, on the north-west by the Belgian Congo, on the north-east by Tanganyika Territory, on the east by the Nyasaland Protectorate and Portuguese East Africa, and on the south by Southern Rhodesia and the mandated territory of South West Africa, comprising in all an area that is computed to be about 290,320 square miles. The River Zambesi forms the greater part of the southern boundary; its two main northern tributaries are the rivers Kafue and Luangwa. With the exception of these river

Digitized by Google

Brit. Gov. Pub.
Southern
12-14-37
15-205

valleys, the territory consists of a table-land varying from 3,000 to 4,500 feet in height, though in the north-eastern portion, and especially in the vicinity of Lake Tanganyika, the altitude is greater.

History.

The little that is known of the early history of Northern Rhodesia is very fragmentary and is gleaned from the accounts of the few intrepid travellers who penetrated into this unknown territory.

The Portuguese Governor of Sena, Dr. Lacerda, encouraged by the report of the half-breed Fereira who returned from Kasembe's capital, close to the eastern shores of Lake Mweru in June, 1798, decided to set out on the expedition he had planned the year before, and on 3rd July, 1798, left Tete for the north. He was accompanied by Fathers Francisco, Jose and Pinto, twelve officers and fifty men-at-arms, but failed to reach his goal, and died within a few miles of Kasembe's capital. Father Pinto led the remnants of the expedition back to Sena, and it is from Dr. Lacerda's diaries, which Father Pinto with great difficulty saved, that the first authentic history of what is now North-Eastern Rhodesia was taken. Dr. Lacerda was followed in the early 19th century by two Portuguese traders, Baptista and Jose, who brought back stories of the great interior kingdom of the Balunda, which extended from Lake Mweru to the confines of Barotseland and included the whole of the country drained by the Upper Congo and its tributaries. This kingdom is reputed to have lasted from the 16th to the 19th century. Very few historical facts are known about it, but the name of Mwatiamvo, the dynastic title of the paramount chief, is associated, like Monomotapa, with many half-legendary stories. Neither of these expeditions was of any great geographical value and it was not till 1851, when Dr. Livingstone made his great missionary journeys and travelled through Barotseland and in 1855 discovered the Victoria Falls, that the civilised world had its first authentic information of Northern Rhodesia. Other and later explorers who brought back stories of the barbarism of the natives, of the wealth of game, and of the glories of the Victoria Falls, were Serpa Pinto, Cameron, Selous and Arnot.

From the very early days when the hordes of migratory Bantu swept southward from Central and Northern Africa, Northern Rhodesia has been subject to constant invasion from stronger tribes on its borders, so much so, that the vast majority of the present native population, though of Bantu origin, is descended from men who themselves invaded this country not earlier than 1700 A.D. One or two small tribes, numbering now only a very few thousand, such as the Masubia on the Zambesi, are all that remain of the inhabitants of Northern Rhodesia prior to that date. Though the story of these invasions has passed into

Digitized by Google

oblivion, their traces remain in the extraordinary number and diversity of races and of languages in the country.

At the present time the population of the territory has been classified into seventy-three different tribes, the most important of which are the Wemba, Ngoni, Chewa, and Wisa in the north-eastern districts, the Rozi, Tonga, Luvale, Lenje, and Ila in the north-western districts, and the Senga, Lala, and Lunda, members of which are resident in both the eastern and western areas. There are some thirty different dialects in use, but many of them vary so slightly that a knowledge of six of the principal languages will enable a person to converse with every native in the country. Chinyanja is in use as the official language of the police and is probably the language most generally spoken by Europeans; it is in reality a Nyasaland language—the word means "Language of the Lake"—but it is also spoken to some extent round Fort Jameson. In many instances the tribes overlap and encroach upon each other, and it is not uncommon to find a group of villages of one tribe entirely surrounded by villages of another tribe. Many of the tribes on the borders extend into neighbouring territories; in some instances the paramount chief resides in a foreign country and only a small proportion of the tribe lives in Northern Rhodesia.

The chief invaders of the early part of the 19th century were the Arabs from the north, the Angoni, a branch of the early Zulus who fled from the oppressive tyranny of Tchaka and who settled in the north-east of the territory, and the Makololo, an offshoot of the Basuto family, who in the beginning of the 19th century fought their way from the south through Bechuanaland and across the Zambesi under the noted Chief Sebitoani; they conquered the Batoka, the Masubia, and the Marozi and founded a kingdom which was distinguished by a comparatively high degree of social organization.

The duration of the Makololo kingdom was short, lasting between twenty and thirty years. Soon after the death of Sebitoani, the Marozi rebelled and massacred the Makololo to a man, keeping their women. As a result of this the influence of their occupation is still to be seen in the Sikololo language, which is largely spoken amongst the tribes near the Zambesi. The Marozi under Lewanika enlarged their kingdom by conquering several surrounding tribes, such as the Mankoya, the Malovale, and the Batoka. Beyond these limits their authority was both nebulous and ephemeral.

In the year 1891 Lewanika was informed that the protection of Her Majesty's Government had been extended to his country as he had requested that it should be, and on 17th October, 1900, the Barotse Concession was signed by him and his chiefs and representatives of the Chartered Company. The concession was confirmed in due course by the Secretary of State for the

Digitized by Google

Colonies and under its terms the Company acquired certain trading and mineral rights over the whole of Lewanika's dominion, while the paramount chief was to receive, among other advantages, an annual subsidy of £850.

During this time the slave trade established by the Arabs continued unchecked. Its baleful influence had gradually spread from the shores of Lakes Nyasa and Tanganyika over the whole territory; but with the establishment of a Government post at Abercorn in 1893 the slave trade in this part of Africa received its first serious check. In each succeeding year more Arab settlements on the Lake shore were destroyed. Sir Harry Johnston defeated the Arab Chief Mlozi at Karonga in 1894, and the last caravan of slaves, which was intercepted on its way to the east coast, was released at Fort Jameson in 1898. Even after that, bands of slave-raiders were occasionally encountered on the north-east boundary and skirmishes with them took place as late as 1900; but with the final establishment of the administration of the British South Africa Company the slavers quickly disappeared from the country.

The status of the conquered tribes under Lewanika's dominion was that of a mild form of slavery. This social serfdom was brought to an end by the edict of Lewanika, who in 1906 agreed to the emancipation of the slave tribes.

Before 1899 the whole territory had been vaguely included in the Charter granted to the British South Africa Company, but in that year the Barotseland-North Western Rhodesia Order in Council placed the Company's administration of the western portion of the country on a firm basis; it was closely followed by the North-Eastern Rhodesia Order in Council of 1900 which had a similar effect. The two territories were amalgamated in 1911 under the designation of Northern Rhodesia, and the administration of the Company (subject to the exercise of certain powers of control by the Crown) continued until 1924. In that year the administration of the territory was assumed by the Crown in terms of a settlement arrived at between the Crown and the Company, and the first Governor was appointed on 1st April, 1924.

Since that date rich copper deposits have been discovered in the north-west of the territory and have been developed into an extensive industrial area embodying three large townships with a population including several thousands of Europeans.

Climate.

There are considerable differences between various parts of the country. The Zambesi, the Luangwa and the Kafue valleys experience a much greater humidity and a more trying heat than do the plateaux above 3,500 or 4,000 feet. The hottest months are October and November before the rains break, when

Digitized by Google

the maximum is 97° F. at Zambesi valley stations and 85° F. at plateau stations. The mean maximum for the eight months of the hot season (September to April) is approximately 90° F. with a mean minimum of 64° F., while the corresponding figures for the four months of the cold season (May to August) are 79°F. and 46° F.

The following table gives representative temperatures for the territory experienced during 1936:—

	Highest mean Max. °F.	*Month.*	*Lowest mean Min. °F.*	*Month.*	*Absolute Max. °F.*	*Month.*	*Absolute Min. °F.*	*Month.*
Livingstone, 3,160 ft.	95·4	Oct.	45·5	July	101·6	Nov.	37·0	June
Broken Hill, 3,920 ft.	89·6	Oct.	49·6	July	94·3	Oct.	39·6	May
Isoka, 4,210 ft.	88·1	Oct.	54·7	June	94·0	Sept.	50·0	June July
Balovale, 3,400 ft.	95·9	Sept.	48·0	June	106·0	Oct.	42·0	June

Highest temperature ... ... 116° F., Kanchindu
Lowest temperature ... ... 24° F., Sesheke

The rainy season usually commences in November and lasts until April. Slight showers occur to the north-east of the territory in August and to the north-east and north-west in September. In October the rains begin to spread over the whole territory, reaching a maximum in December.

The intensity of rainfall decreases in January, this falling-off appearing to be the nearest approach to a break in the rains, which is characteristic of the two seasonal areas of the central tropical zone.

In February the rains re-establish themselves over the whole of the central area of the territory, following much the same contour alignment as in December. In March the zone of heavy rainfall shifts well to the north and east. In April the rains have definitely moved north and in May have practically ceased.

The greatest rainfall recorded in 24 hours was 6·60 inches on the 25th March, 1936, at Johnston Falls in the Fort Rosebery district.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Central Administration.

The office of Governor was created by an Order of His Majesty in Council dated 20th February, 1924, and the first Governor assumed his duties on 1st April, 1924.

The Governor is advised by an Executive Council which consists of five members—the Chief Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, the Senior Provincial Commissioner, and the Director of Medical Services. Provision is also made for the inclusion of extraordinary members on special occasions.

Digitized by Google

The Order in Council provided that a Legislative Council should be constituted in accordance with the terms of the Northern Rhodesia (Legislative Council) Order in Council, dated 20th February, 1924, to consist of the Governor as President, the members of the Executive Council *ex officio,* nominated official members not exceeding four in number, and five elected unofficial members.

In 1929 the number of elected unofficial members was increased to seven consequent upon the very considerable increase in the European population.

The seat of government was transferred from Livingstone to Lusaka in 1935, the official inauguration of the new capital being arranged to coincide with the ceremonial celebration of His late Majesty's birthday on the 3rd of June.

Provincial Administration.

For administrative purposes the territory was formerly divided into nine provinces, each of which was under a Provincial Commissioner responsible for his province to the Governor. The provinces were grouped together under five Provincial Commissioners in 1933 and as from 1st January, 1935, the number of provinces was reduced to five. The provinces are divided into districts under the charge of District Commissioners responsible to the Provincial Commissioners.

Native Administration.

In 1936 a new Native Authority Ordinance was passed, which modified the previous Ordinance, providing for the recognition of Native Authorities by the Governor, instead of their appointment, as previously. Emphasis is laid on the development of tribal institutions on traditional lines. The Ordinance gives powers to Native Authorities to issue Orders and to make rules to enable them to govern and maintain order in tribal areas. Provision is also made for the setting up of Native Treasuries, and powers are given to Native Authorities to impose rates, dues and fees, subject to the Governor's approval. The passing of the Ordinance marks a definite advance in the development of tribal self-government. Native Treasuries will be set up during the coming year.

A similar Ordinance was also passed for Barotseland during the year, with the concurrence of the Barotse Native Government. It follows closely the provisions of the Native Authority Ordinance, but gives the Paramount Chief wider powers than are given to Native Authorities elsewhere. A Native Treasury has already been established in Barotseland, and its institution has resulted in a marked improvement in the control of moneys by the Barotse Native Government.

Digitized by Google

III.—POPULATION.

The first census of the territory took place on the 7th May, 1911, prior to the amalgamation in the same year of North-Eastern and North-Western Rhodesia under the title Northern Rhodesia; the second was held on the 3rd May, 1921, and the third on the 5th May, 1931.

The following table shows the increase of population since 1911 (the figures for European population for 1931 are census figures, whilst all those for African population are taken from the annual Native Affairs Reports):—

Year.	*Europeans.*	*Increase per cent.*	*Africans.*	*Increase per cent.*	*Proportion of Africans to one European.*
1911 ...	1,497	—	821,063	—	548·47
1921 ...	3,634	143	979,704	19	269·59
1931 ...	13,846	381	1,372,235	40	99

The increase in the number of Europeans between 1921 and 1931 was due to the influx which took place during the development of the copper mines in the Ndola district between 1927 and 1931. The mines had nearly completed construction towards the end of the year 1931 and a considerable number of Europeans left the territory in consequence.

The economic depression which set in towards the end of the same year was the cause of a further drop of 23·7 per cent. during 1932. In 1933 and 1934 an increase was brought about by the renewed activity at the copper mines. The European population is now in the region of 10,500.

The numbers of Asiatics and non-native coloured persons in the territory at the 1931 census amounted to 176 and 425 respectively.

The African population in 1934 was estimated to be 1,366,425, which showed a decrease of 4,788 or ·34 per cent. on the previous year, and its average density through the territory was 4·7 to the square mile. No count of the native population has since been made but so far as is known there has been little change.

Immigration.

Ten thousand seven hundred and fifty-five persons entered Northern Rhodesia during 1936. This number includes immigrants, returning residents, visitors, tourists and a small percentage of persons in transit. The immigrants numbered 1,212, of whom 1,115 were British subjects, and 97 alien, the percentage of aliens being 8·01.

The following comparative table of immigrants shows the progress of the territory.

1927.	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
1,038	1,066	1,861	3,651	1,702	615	801	1,726	1,352	1,212

Digitized by Google

Thirteen persons were removed from the territory under the Immigration Ordinance. Of this number five were indigent, seven illiterate, and one criminal.

Accurate figures of emigration are not available.

Seven destitute persons with seven dependants were repatriated at Government expense during the year, a decrease on the 1936 total of 25, on the 1934 total of 27, on the 1933 total of 173 and the 1932 total of 409. Thirteen of these persons were sent to the Union of South Africa, and one to Southern Rhodesia.

Asiatic Population.

The Asiatic population as at the 31st December, 1936, was approximately 360, as compared with 227 in 1935. All these Asiatics are British Indians.

IV.—HEALTH.

The medical facilities available to the European and native populations in the past were maintained throughout the year, and were as follows:—

European Hospitals.	*Native Hospitals.*
Livingstone.	Livingstone.
Lusaka.	Choma.
Broken Hill.	Mazabuka.
Ndola.	Lusaka.
Kasama.	Broken Hill.
Fort Jameson.	Ndola.
Mongu.	Kasama.
	Fort Rosebery.
	Fort Jameson.
	Mongu.
	Balovale.
	Abercorn.

In addition to the above-mentioned hospitals, Government maintained 23 dispensaries on Government stations and 15 in rural districts in charge of native orderlies. The rural dispensaries were visited from time to time by the medical officer of the district.

Owing to the vastness of the territory and the lack of means of communication, the treatment of the African population presents considerable difficulty. It is hoped in the near future to begin to establish a chain of rural dispensaries.

A great deal of valuable medical work has been done by the various missions, who control many hospitals and dispensaries under the supervision of doctors, trained nurses and missionaries with some medical training; these services to the natives

Digitized by Google

are subsidized by Government to the extent of £3,050 per annum.

The large mines in the copper belt maintain their own medical staff in addition to well-equipped hospitals in which they care for their employees. All destitute Europeans and unemployed natives are treated at Government expense, but those in the copper belt are, when possible, transported to the Government hospital at Ndola.

The railway maintains either full-time or part-time medical officers at Livingstone, Choma, Lusaka, Broken Hill and Ndola, who give medical treatment to railway employees as required.

School Inspections.—Medical and dental inspections of all European schools are carried out by Government medical officers and dental surgeons subsidized by Government, and parents are advised as regards the health of their children.

Subsidies are granted to dental surgeons at Livingstone, Lusaka, Broken Hill, Ndola and Fort Jameson. The response of European parents in seeking dental treatment is disappointing, although the impecunious receive free treatment.

European Vital Statistics.

	1930.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Number of deaths...	163	210	117	103	108	100	78
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.	28	28	24	13	15	15	6
Mortality per 1,000 live births.	102·56	84·08	72·29	40·88	47·61	53·00	19·16

Number of Births: 313.

Birth rates and death rates are not now calculated since no sufficiently close knowledge of the population exists.

No appointments to the posts vacated in 1933 were made during the year, with the result that only skeleton health services were maintained; all medical officers attempt to perform the duties of medical officers of health, in addition to their clinical duties.

The general health of the country throughout the year was good, and no epidemic disease of great importance was recorded.

Malaria and Blackwater Fever.—Considerable anti-malarial measures continue to be undertaken by the chief mining companies with excellent results. The following table of European deaths indicates a general improvement of conditions:—

Deaths.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Malaria	22	16	3	10	8	9
Blackwater... ...	19	22	20	11	13	5

Trypanosomiasis.—Twenty-eight cases of this disease were reported during the year. All these cases were natives, and

Digitized by Google

only five deaths occurred. The distribution of cases was as follows:—

	Cases.	*Deaths.*
Livingstone	1	1
Choma	1	—
Lusaka	1	—
Broken Hill	1	—
Ndola	2	1
Mine Townships	2	—
Abercorn	10	3
Mumbwa	9	—
Kasama	1	—
	28	5

Typhoid.—Nine European and 24 native cases were reported during the year. There were no deaths.

Variola.—There were no cases of variola major in 1936, but 96 cases of variola minor were reported from Mazabuka and Pemba.

Measles.—Several severe outbreaks of measles occurred in the Northern and Eastern Provinces with considerable mortality among infants. During the period January to March there were a number of outbreaks in the copper belt amongst Europeans and natives but none of these reached epidemic proportions.

Influenza.—Only one epidemic of influenza was reported, that being in the Fort Rosebery district where the total cases and deaths were 698 and 78 respectively.

Child Welfare.

The welfare clinics previously established at Livingstone, Lusaka, Ndola and Luanshya functioned throughout the year, and reports received are most encouraging. This work among both European and natives is developing and increasing. At Lusaka, Ndola and Luanshya full-time nursing sisters of the Government Service are engaged in welfare work. At Lusaka a second nurse is paid by the Town Management Board. At Livingstone a voluntary society interested in this aspect of medical work employs a nurse, and derives funds from annual grants-in-aid contributed by the Beit Trustees, the Railway Company, the Municipality and the Government.

Native Labour.

The Roan Antelope, Nkana, Mufulira, and Broken Hill mines have been active throughout the year, employing 15,527 natives. There is no recruiting for these mines at present, owing to the general conditions of labour, which have been sufficient to induce thousands of natives to seek employment on the copper belt. All employees on these mines are housed and fed under hygienic conditions, and every attention is given to the sick.

Digitized by Google

Modern ideas on health and hygiene are inculcated into the minds of the natives and there is no doubt that these men, when returning to their villages on the termination of their contracts, will not be satisfied to live under their former conditions, and will thus spread this knowledge to the more remote areas.

The advancement of the native is only a matter of time, and the importance of these large native communities in close proximity to Europeans and under strict European supervision cannot be over-estimated.

There was no shortage of labour, and no fewer than 51,212 natives were reported to be working outside the territory, chiefly in Southern Rhodesia, at the close of the year. Within the territory 77,300 were being employed, an increase of 11,000 over the figure for 1935.

The Native Industrial Labour Advisory Board, which was appointed in 1935, continued to give advice on all major problems affecting native labour, and in August a provisional agreement designed to regulate the flow of migrant native labour between the three territories of Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland was signed.

The Witwatersrand Native Labour Association, being anxious to obtain labour from this territory, made an agreement with this Government whereby they were permitted to engage one thousand Northern Rhodesia native labourers as an experiment, in order to ascertain whether climatic and other conditions on the Witwatersrand justify recruiting on a larger scale.

V.—HOUSING.

European Government Housing.

The new houses at the new capital are brick built and are mostly of two-storey villa type without verandahs. There are also six blocks of flats, each flat containing two rooms, kitchen and bathroom. Each block contains eight flats. The newest houses and the flats are not mosquito-proofed. Old and new Government houses at Lusaka have been given water-carried, indoor sanitation.

Outside Lusaka, most Government quarters are brick buildings of bungalow type with wide verandahs, and many are provided with mosquito gauze. Domestic sanitation consists of earth closets.

European Non-Government Housing.

Modern buildings, most suitable to this country, and equipped with every convenience, are to be found on all the mines on the copper belt. Most privately-owned residences throughout the territory are similar to the older type of Government houses.

Digitized by Google

Native Housing.

In areas where most Europeans live the natives are housed in locations. The houses themselves, in most places, and their surroundings leave much to be desired, but efforts are being made to get away from the old compound atmosphere and to provide quarters best described as an improved African village. The Governor's Village and the personal servants' compound at the new capital are examples of this, and these have water-borne sanitary arrangements.

The housing of natives in the mining areas is very good on the whole, and compares very favourably with most town compounds in the railway line townships.

There are many evidences that natives themselves appreciate good and sanitary housing, and improvement as to space, lighting and ventilation may be seen in native villages.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Land and Agriculture.

Of the total area of the territory of approximately 275,000 square miles, some 13,700 square miles, or about 4½ per cent. have been alienated to Europeans. Most of the alienated land is used for grazing.

The following table illustrates the trend of arable farming since 1928. These figures and those in other tables relate only to settlers' holdings; no statistics of native production are available:—

Season.	*Maize, acres.*	*Tobacco, acres.*	*Wheat, acres.*	*Total under cultivation, acres.*
1928–29	39,215	3,232	2,572	67,207
1929–30	47,085	3,585	2,095	66,429
1930–31	42,974	2,328	1,594	76,092
1931–32	42,757	2,472	2,261	73,000*
1932–33	34,036	2,236	2,271	63,000*
1933–34	36,487	3,375	2,845	65,000*
1934–35	40,018	3,411	3,234	70,000*
1935–36	41,203	3,441	4,249	80,000*

* Estimated.

The final column includes acreages under minor crops, orchards, green manures and bare fallows.

The 1935-6 season was characterized by the lateness of the first rains and a series of prolonged droughts. By the end of February maize crops were in a critical condition, but the end of season rains, which were copious and well-distributed, turned what appeared to be certain failure into the most abundant harvest ever recorded. The late rains, however, adversely affected all but the earliest tobacco curings and favoured the spread of rust in winter-sown wheat.

Digitized by Google

Statistics of maize production from 1929 onwards are summarized in the following table:—

Year ending 31st December.	*Area in thousands of acres.*	*Average yield in bags per acre.*	*Yield in thousands of bags.*	*Farm consumption in thousands of bags.*	*Surplus available for sale in thousands of bags.*
1929	39	5·1	202	33	169
1930	47	4·3	202	37	165
1931	43	4·5	194	33	161
1932	43	6·9	296	46	250
1933	34	3·6	122	31	91
1934	36	6·9	251	38	213
1935	40	4·0	160	28	132
1936	41	8·0	329	55	274

The Maize Control Ordinance came into operation on the 1st May, 1936. The Control Board had to deal with a large carry-over from the previous year in addition to a new crop of some 440,000 bags of which over 160,000 were produced by natives. Current local consumption is about 210,000 bags per annum. The Board exported 131,000 bags overseas, 58,000 bags to Southern Rhodesia by arrangement with the Southern Rhodesian Maize Control Board, and 45,000 bags to the Union of South Africa. Most opportunely the rise in the world price of maize coincided with this heavy export programme. Maize control has unquestionably proved beneficial in its first year, not least to the native producers who, for the first time, have been offered a remunerative market for the maize they cared to sell.

Wheat is grown almost exclusively as a winter crop under irrigation. Lusaka is the main producing centre. The acreage planted in 1936 was 25 per cent. greater than that of 1935, but, due mainly to rust, the yield per acre was the lowest on record.

Wheat production in recent years has been as follows:—

Year.	*Acreage.*	*Yield in bags of 200 lb.*	*Average yield per acre.*
1929	2,572	11,838	4·6
1930	2,095	9,583	4·6
1931	1,594	5,627	3·6
1932	2,261	11,373	5·0
1933	2,271	11,579	5·1
1934	2,845	12,564	4·4
1935	3,234	18,228	5·6
1936	4,249	11,121	2·6

Tobacco, the one important export crop, is grown chiefly in the Fort Jameson district. The earliest curings were of high quality but the later ones suffered badly from the abnormal late rains. Acreage was roughly the same as that of 1935 but yield was considerably reduced. The total crop was 1,275,000 lb. of cured leaf of which 1,201,000 lb. were of the Virginia flue

Digitized by Google

cured type. Sales were divided almost equally between African and overseas markets.

Minor crops such as groundnuts, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and pulses are of trivial importance in comparison with maize, wheat and tobacco. Increased demand has stimulated the market-gardening industry and 1,130 tons of mixed vegetables were sold.

The territory continues to obtain the bulk of its fruit requirements from Southern Rhodesia and the Union of South Africa. Deciduous fruit trees are successful only in a few favoured localities, but citrus thrives in most places where irrigation is possible. The equivalent of about 6,000 cases of locally-produced citrus was sold.

Coffee planters had rather a bad year. Production fell from 630 cwt. in 1935 to 430 cwt.

There was no locust damage during the year.

Veterinary.

Northern Rhodesia remains free from the major diseases of stock, with the exception of contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia, which is still enzootic in the Barotse Province. Preliminary investigational work on the behaviour of vaccine in combating this disease is in progress and, should the experiments prove successful, it is hoped to embark upon a campaign for its eradication from Barotseland in the near future.

Foot and mouth disease was finally eradicated from the territory early in 1936 and, fortunately, no recrudescence has occurred.

The usual incidence of redwater, gallsickness, heartwater and other tick-borne diseases occurred, and it is unfortunate that certain stockowners still fail to realize the value of short-interval dipping in the control of these conditions.

Trypanosomiasis is very prevalent in certain areas of the territory.

Sporadic outbreaks of anthrax, quarter evil and other bacterial diseases occur and are controlled by prophylactic inoculation.

The territory remains free from rinderpest and East Coast fever.

The incidence of parasitic worms is high, particularly in sheep.

Pigs are singularly free from disease and thrive well.

Outbreaks of fowl typhoid and fowl pox occur among poultry. Prophylactic inoculation is employed by the more progressive flock owners.

Despite the increased demand for slaughter cattle during the year, it was possible to supply all requirements from sources within the territory and no importations of slaughter stock from Southern Rhodesia or Bechuanaland were permitted.

Digitized by Google

Importation of breeding stock from Southern Rhodesia and the Union of South Africa continued throughout the year. It is unfortunate that these importations were not greater in number, as fresh blood is badly needed in the herds of the territory.

The Cattle Levy Ordinance was in operation throughout the year. This measure imposes a 3 per cent. levy upon the sales of all slaughter cattle, the proceeds of the levy to be applied to such objects for the benefit of the cattle industry of the territory as His Excellency the Governor may direct. The effects of the Ordinance are not yet apparent.

The Creamery at Lusaka continues to prosper and is well supported by farmers, to whom the monthly cream cheque is a welcome asset. Butter is still imported into the territory as the Creamery supplies are not equal to the demands of the large mining communities in the north.

Slaughter sheep are imported from the south as local supplies are insufficient. On the other hand, some difficulty is experienced in obtaining a market for all the pigs produced in the territory.

Mining.

Producing Mines.

Roan Antelope.—Underground development on the 820 level is continuing on a full production basis which has enabled the mine to meet the increased production required during the latter part of the year without difficulty.

The new shafts on each side of the syncline are below the 1420 level and can develop the ore-body at this depth as soon as required.

The copper production of both the Roan Antelope and Mufulira mines was treated in the smelter but this became difficult when production rapidly increased towards the end of the year. The total quantity of copper produced was 56,454 tons.

Nkana Mine.—At the Mindola section of the mine the main drives were developed and a large amount of sub-level work was done in preparation for stoping. From this section 25,000 tons of ore per month were railed to Nkana in the latter part of the year which was of assistance when the quota increased.

Normal development continued on the Nkana section and the main shaft was deepened.

There has been a good demand for cobalt alloy recovered from converter slag.

The electrolytic refinery worked at full capacity and two consignments of slimes therefrom, containing precious metals were shipped to Europe.

Digitized by Google

The mineral production of the mine for the year was:—

Copper in blister	28,091 tons.
Copper in cathodes	28,012 tons.
Cobalt	1,016,633 lb.
Gold	304 oz.
Silver	221,970 oz.

Mufulira.—Early in the year the construction of the plant and smelter was completed, but with the low scale of production allowed under the copper quota agreement only a portion of the plant was used. The output was not sufficient for the economic use of the smelter and the concentrates were railed to the Roan Antelope Mine for treatment. The underground development programme was based on the quota, which made it somewhat difficult to meet the sudden demand for increased production at the end of the year. The increased copper output rendered it necessary to start up the smelter to relieve the pressure on the Roan Antelope smelter. The furnace was heated in December and the slag bottom poured. The smelter will be producing copper early in January, 1937. The output for the year was 29,783 tons of copper.

Broken Hill.—The mining of zinc ore from opencast working was gradually replaced by mining these deposits underground from shallow vertical shafts.

The output of zinc and vanadium ores was maintained at the level of previous years. During the year a large amount of diamond drilling was undertaken which proved the zinc lead sulphide ore-bodies to depths of 1,000 feet. Drilling was also used to find a suitable position for a deep level pumping shaft, a favourable site being located.

With the reconstruction of the finances of the company, capital has been made available for sinking this pump shaft and for general development in depth. Work will be commenced during the coming year.

In addition to exports of zinc and vanadium a small amount of lead ore was smelted for plant requirements.

Nchanga Mine.—Towards the end of the year a company with large financial resources was floated to develop this property, and personnel from Nkana Mine overhauled the power station and supervised the reconditioning of the houses. Sites are being tested for sinking two incline shafts directly below the ore-body which will connect with the old workings that were flooded when the mine closed down. In one of these shafts it is proposed to establish a large pumping station.

Luiri Gold Areas.—Diamond drilling ceased early in the year, but prospecting was continued in the vicinity of the Dunrobin Claims. A promising reef was pegged at Chosha and is being developed by one vertical and one incline shaft. A further

Digitized by Google

series of reefs was located two miles away, but at present the work is not sufficiently advanced to establish its value.

By the end of April the gas engine, mill and a portion of the cyanide plant were completed; crushing of ore from two workings on Dunrobin Claims commenced in May; and an average of 2,400 tons of ore is now being crushed per month. The total amount of gold recovered during the period from May to the end of the year by cyanide and amalgamation was 3,057 oz. The reserves of payable ore are small and the length of life of the mine is governed by the amount available at Chosha and the new reefs referred to above.

New Jessie Mine.—There has been difficulty in locating lenses of payable ore on this mine. Klipspringer No. 2 continued to be the main source of tonnage; various narrow reefs are being tested, but no lenses of any size have so far been found and it is only with difficulty that the mill has been kept supplied.

Development continues and it is to be hoped that one or more new lenses of ore may shortly be discovered. The total gold output for the year was 650 oz.

Sasare West Mine.—This small gold mine was worked intermittently and three small declarations of gold were made. Work has now ceased, but the accumulated sands are to be cyanided.

Sachenga Mine.—A small output of mica was maintained from the property.

Cassiterides.—Various patches of gravel were successfully washed on this property and concentrates were shipped. The economic areas of gravel are very scattered and no estimate of the total quantity available can be made.

Developing Mines.

Chakwenga.—The ore-bodies of this gold prospect in the Rhodesia Mineral Concession were developed above water level and satisfactory values disclosed over a short strike. During the year, boilers and machinery were transported to the mine to sink the shaft and develop the ore below water level.

Chambeshi and Kansanshi.—Neither of these mines was worked during the year.

Concessions.

Rhokana Concession.—Field parties were engaged in prospecting and mapping 1,939 square miles of this concession. In addition extensive potholing was carried out in the vicinity of Nchanga followed by some diamond drilling at Konkola.

Intensive potholing and surface prospecting was done near the Belgian Congo border in the vicinity of Prince Leopold Mine but there is no report of any disclosures of ore.

Digitized by Google

Loangwa Concessions.—Geological prospecting was mainly confined to the Abercorn District where 1,803 square miles were mapped. Various gold-bearing gravels in the concession were tested but did not prove to be of economic value. Liteta prospect south of Broken Hill, and several prospects near Lubungu were investigated but were closed on account of the poor results obtained.

Rhodesia Minerals Concession.—Five hundred and twenty-seven square miles of the concession were prospected and mapped. A gold occurrence near Chisamba and several mineral occurrences south-east of Lusaka were prospected but the work was discontinued about the middle of the year.

General.

During the year the prices of copper and zinc improved steadily, copper rising from £35 to over £50 and zinc from £14 to £20. The copper quota remained at 70 per cent. of basic production until the 1st of August when it was increased to 75 per cent. From the beginning of October further increases were made by the quota committee, a final percentage of 105 being reached on the 6th of November.

This call for rapid increase of production temporarily taxed the capacity of the mines, suitable non-native labour not being available at short notice, and there was a slight lag in producing the required tonnage until December when the amount was obtained and the shortfall of previous months made up.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The principal features of the external trade of the territory during 1936 were a fall in the value of imports and a large increase in the value of exports.

The value of merchandise imported during the year under review amounted to £2,291,953 as against £2,902,960 in 1935, a decrease of £611,007, or 21 per cent.

In addition, Government stores to the value of £43,508 and specie to the value of £14,485 were imported.

The total exports of merchandise were valued at £6,037,616 as compared with £4,778,604 in 1935, an increase of £1,259,012 or 26 per cent. In addition, specie to the value of £7,521 was exported.

The lower value of imports was mainly due to the cessation of the importation of machinery and metal manufactures previously used in development work on the mines. This is reflected in the value of imports recorded under Class V (metals, metal manufactures, machinery and vehicles) which were valued at £680,278 as against £1,210,149 in 1935: 87 per cent. of the

Digitized by Google

fall in the value of imports occurred in this class. Most of the more important of the imports classed as normal " consumption " articles also showed a decrease during the year.

The British Empire supplied 78 per cent. in value of the total imports of merchandise during 1936 as compared with 75 per cent., 77 per cent., 75 per cent. and 79 per cent. during the years 1932 to 1935. The United Kingdom was again the main country of supply, with 35 per cent. of the total imports, and United States of America was the largest non-Empire supplier with 10 per cent.

Metals constituted 95 per cent. of the total value of domestic exports, copper alone representing 84 per cent. The increase in the value of exports resulted mainly from the receipt of higher prices for copper. The principal purchasers of domestic exports were the United Kingdom (53 per cent.) and Germany (23 per cent.).

The trade balance was in favour of exports to the extent of £3,745,663 whereas in 1935 it was £1,875,644.

The following figures show the value of imports and exports and re-exports of merchandise during the past 10 years:—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports and Re-exports.*
	£	£
1927	1,957,138	755,525
1928	2,366,317	847,068
1929	3,602,417	899,736
1930	4,862,722	885,976
1931	5,140,548	1,178,515
1932	1,864,902	2,675,248
1933	1,931,829	3,715,396
1934	2,884,506	4,530,933
1935	2,902,960	4,778,604
1936	2,291,953	6,037,616

Imports.

The following summary furnishes a comparison of the value of merchandise imported during the years 1933 to 1936 which originated from Empire and from foreign countries:—

Imports from.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£
Union of South Africa ...	404,540	448,629	410,140	377,096
Southern Rhodesia	346,261	422,574	449,673	492,557
United Kingdom and other Empire countries	732,072	1,299,686	1,444,298	917,595
Total British Empire ...	1,482,873	2,170,889	2,304,111	1,787,248
Foreign countries	448,956	713,617	598,849	504,705
Total merchandise ...	£1,931,829	£2,884,506	£2,902,960	£2,291,953

For the purpose of illustrating the routes of import trade, the following table shows the value of merchandise from the

Digitized by Google

Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia and directly from overseas during the years 1933 to 1936:—

Imports from.	1933. £	1934. £	1935. £	1936. £
Union of South Africa	502,643	626,520	552,485	546,720
Southern Rhodesia	857,248	1,040,278	1,085,314	1,025,783
Overseas (direct)	571,938	1,217,708	1,265,161	719,450
	£1,931,829	£2,884,506	£2,902,960	£2,291,953

The following table gives the values of the principal classes of imports during the years 1932 to 1936:—

Class.	*1932.* £	*1933.* £	*1934.* £	*1935.* £	*1936.* £
Animals (living)	29,036	367	13,845	9,015	11,697
Foodstuffs, etc.	262,221	197,810	229,444	218,662	193,200
Ales, spirits and wines, etc. (potable).	84,485	74,475	88,052	93,306	83,805
Spirits (non-potable) ...	1,523	1,400	1,928	1,846	1,642
Tobacco manufactures ...	61,622	53,432	62,071	63,393	58,473
Textiles, apparel, yarns and fibres.	319,835	308,423	350,353	411,109	370,825
Metals, metal manufactures, machinery and vehicles.	391,531	486,546	1,187,340	1,210,149	680,278
Minerals, earthenware, glassware and cement.	132,251	176,292	247,218	253,649	236,622
Oils, waxes, resins, paints and varnishes.	142,811	126,318	137,597	140,151	144,982
Drugs, chemicals and fertilizers.	52,828	64,175	85,588	76,614	72,133
Leather and rubber, and manufactures thereof.	57,032	58,854	78,403	64,575	63,031
Wood, cane, wicker, and manufactures thereof.	51,493	48,092	71,749	48,009	53,927
Books, paper and stationery.	36,260	34,805	38,546	44,300	40,497
Jewellery, time - pieces, fancy goods, etc.	29,778	25,419	28,310	32,773	26,387
Miscellaneous	212,196	275,421	264,062	235,409	254,454
Total Merchandise ...	£1,864,902	1,931,829	2,884,506	2,902,960	2,291,953

Exports.

The following table shows the values of exports and re-exports during the years 1933 to 1936.

	1933. £	1934. £	1935. £	1936. £
Exports	3,588,609	4,399,990	4,671,895	5,936,692
Re-exports	126,787	130,943	106,709	100,924
Total merchandise ...	3,715,396	4,530,933	4,778,604	6,037,616
Specie	31,958	9,462	23,959	7,521
Grand Total	£3,747,354	£4,540,395	£4,802,563	£6,045,137

Digitized by Google

In the following table a comparison is given between the values of exports and re-exports to the Union of South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, the United Kingdom and other Empire Countries and to foreign countries during the years 1933 to 1936.

Exports.	1933. £	1934. £	1935. £	1936. £
To Union of South Africa ...	60,325	69,580	162,300	294,217
To Southern Rhodesia ...	18,766	20,210	26,768	53,294
To United Kingdom and other Empire countries	1,179,719	1,947,989	2,470,154	3,208,822
To Foreign countries	2,329,799	2,362,211	2,012,673	2,380,359
Total exports	£3,588,609	£4,399,990	£4,671,895	£5,936,692

Re-exports.	1933. £	1934. £	1935. £	1936. £
To Union of South Africa ...	30,896	37,870	27,474	29,170
To Southern Rhodesia ...	68,480	63,879	66,772	61,905
To United Kingdom and other Empire countries	14,941	19,211	1,693	2,469
To Foreign countries	12,470	9,983	10,770	7,380
Total re-exports	£126,787	£130,943	£106,709	£100,924

The values of the principal articles exported during the years 1932 to 1936 are given below:—

Article.	*1932.* £	*1933.* £	*1934.* £	*1935.* £	*1936.* £
Copper	2,087,620	3,114,618	3,705,783	3,976,504	4,994,716
Cobalt	—	39,008	191,755	132,646	152,056
Zinc...	1,088	275,834	330,454	295,092	334,621
Vanadium	197,018	19,638	37,224	81,395	125,571
Gold	41,277	6,833	6,351	10,057*	22,962*
Tobacco (leaf) ...	39,209	35,196	41,669	43,220	37,658
Wood (unmanufactured).	9,622	11,626	20,891	25,931	31,425
Wood (manufactured).	23,414	46,829	42,215	78,712	111,203
Hides and skins ...	8,386	8,314	9,946	10,613	16,493

* Value calculated at prices ruling at time of export.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The number of natives employed within the territory increased from 66,700 in December, 1935, to 77,300 in December, 1936. Wages showed little variation, but tended to rise slightly in the farming industry.

The average monthly wage for underground labour on the big copper mines is 31s. 6d., and for surface labour 18s. In the farming industry the average wage for casual labour is 7s. 6d., rising to 10s. and, in some cases, 12s. 6d. The average

Digitized by Google

wage paid to domestic servants varies from 5s. per month for kitchen helps to 50s. per month for cooks. The average all round wage is from 17s. 6d. to 20s. In addition to the wages stated above, native labour is provided with housing and food. The value of the latter varies from 3s. in rural areas to 15s. for highly paid labour in urban areas.

An average of 18,326 natives was employed in the mining industry against 17,381 during 1935; 9,154 in agriculture against 10,029 the previous year; and 10,142 in domestic service against 14,433.

Recruiting for Southern Rhodesia, and particularly for the Rhodesia Railways, was started during the year, and 51,212 natives were reported to be in employment outside the territory at the end of the year compared with 49,030 at the end of 1935. The exodus to work appears to have been greater in 1936 than in any previous year.

The cost of living for Europeans is governed mainly by the cost of transport. Transport charges, even in the case of places on the railway, add considerably to the price of commodities. When transport by motor or other means is necessary, as it is in the case of places off the line of rail, the average price is still further increased.

The average price of various commodities on the line of rail is as follows:—

	Average. s. d.
Bread, per lb. loaf	8
Local flour (1st grade), per lb.	4
Patna rice, per lb.	4
Mazawattee tea, per lb.	3 0
Sugar (white granulated), per lb.	4
Coffee (average, loose and tinned), per lb.	1 10
Butter, per lb.	2 0
Bacon, per lb.	2 0
Eggs (European farms), per doz.	2 0
Milk, per pint	4
Beef, per lb.	9
Soap (Sunlight), per packet	1 6
Kerosene, tin of 4 gallons	10 0
Motor spirit (Shell), per gallon	3 0

The cost of clothing is from 30 to 50 per cent. higher than European prices.

Income tax on individuals is charged as follows:—

For every—

	s. d.
£1 of the first £100 of chargeable income	6
£1 of the next £100 of chargeable income	1 0
£1 of the next £100 of chargeable income	1 6
£1 of the next £100 of chargeable income	2 0
£1 of the next £100 of chargeable income	2 6
£1 in excess of £500 of chargeable income	3 0

Digitized by Google

The following deductions are allowed:—personal, £300; for a wife, £420; for children, £100 each; for a dependant the amount expended, not exceeding £100; for life insurance premiums paid, not exceeding one-sixth of the income remaining after deducting the personal deduction.

An individual who is a non-resident and not a British subject is eligible for the personal deduction of £300 only. Company income tax is at the rate of four shillings in the pound. Relief is allowed in respect of United Kingdom and Empire income tax.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

For the education of European children there were, in 1936, controlled schools at Livingstone, Choma, Mazabuka, Lusaka, Broken Hill, Ndola, Luanshya, Nkana and Mufulira, offering primary education up to Standard VII, with the additional subjects, Latin, French, Algebra, Geometry and Science in Standards VI and VII. There were controlled schools at Mulendema and Silver Rest offering primary education up to Standard V. All these schools were under Government management, the tuition fees varying from 7s. 6d. to £1 17s. 6d. per quarter.

The Convent School, Broken Hill, offering education up to the standard of the South African Matriculation Certificate Examination, the Convent School, Ndola (Kindergarten and Commercial), Mrs. Jeffrey's School, Fort Jameson, Mountfield School, Fort Jameson and Mulobesi School were controlled schools but under private management. The last three offered primary education up to Standard V.

During the year a number of small uncontrolled schools also remained open.

Boarding accommodation was available for girls at the Beit School, Choma, and for boys at the Codrington School, Mazabuka, the boarding fees being £12 10s. per quarter in each case; and for boys and girls at Lusaka School, the boarding fees being £9 per quarter. All three of these schools were under Government management. The Convent School, Broken Hill, under private management, also provided boarding accommodation.

Forty-nine teachers were employed in the controlled schools under Government management, the enrolment at the end of 1936 being 854. In the middle of the last quarter of the year, however, the enrolment was 926, the decrease at the end of the year being due to epidemics and departures on holiday. At the same time, 133 children were attending controlled schools under private management and 54 were receiving education through the Southern Rhodesia correspondence classes.

Digitized by Google

Education for natives in Northern Rhodesia is still mainly provided through the agency of mission societies. These, however, receive financial support from Government and professional guidance from the inspecting officers of the Native Education Department.

Sixteen of the missionary societies operating in the country maintain village elementary schools, boys and girls boarding schools, and teacher-training institutions recognized as eligible for Government grants. A total sum of £14,340 was directly distributed amongst them in recurrent grants in 1936. This amount included a grant of £250 from the Carnegie Corporation and £1,800 from the Barotse Trust Fund, the latter being distributed among the societies carrying on educational work in Barotseland.

*Recurrent expenditure on Native Education during the year 1936 amounted to:—

	£
From Government revenue	23,649
Beit Railway Trust	250
Carnegie Corporation	750
Barotse Trust Fund	4,710
	£29,359

Since the year 1929 the sum of £13,800, generously granted by the Beit Railway Trustees, has been spent on building and equipping the Jeanes, normal, and elementary schools at Mazabuka. In connexion with the establishment of the Native Trades School at Lusaka, buildings were erected between 1932 and 1934 by means of appropriations from Loan Funds.

Owing to the growth of an inspectorate during the past few years, it is becoming possible to carry out more frequent inspections and to ensure that the moneys paid by Government are being utilized satisfactorily and that a steady improvement in the standard of education is being maintained.

Eighty-three African teachers passed the written part of the Government examinations during the year. There are now 670 natives who have passed the written section of the examination and 470 who have been given certificates after inspection of their practical work.

Annual returns show that the Government and mission societies employed on 31st December, 1935, some 1,900 teachers in 1,900 schools and " ungraded " schools. The majority of these teachers must still be classed as catechists or evangelists in charge of so-called " bush " schools and have never had an adequate course of professional training.

Approximately 500 certificated teachers were in the service of missions at the end of the year and qualified for Government grants-in-aid.

* Estimated.

Digitized by Google

One hundred and forty-seven European teachers and technical instructors were engaged in Native education during the year.

Fifteen Europeans and forty-two African teachers and instructors, including the staff of the Barotse National School, comprised the staff of the Native Education Department.

Returns, which must be regarded as approximate, show that 18,908 boys and 8,150 girls attended recognized schools, while roughly 83,000 children attended " ungraded " schools. It is estimated that there are about 300,000 children of school age in Northern Rhodesia.

The foregoing figures give some idea of the magnitude of the task to which Government and missions are devoting themselves. The Jeanes Training School, established by Government at Mazabuka, is an important and effective agent in the work. At present there are twenty selected mission teachers being trained as Jeanes teachers. Their wives also receive training in hygiene, child welfare, and other domestic subjects.

At Mbereshi (London Missionary Society), women teachers are being trained along Jeanes lines. A grant of £500 per year is given towards the cost of their training, half being borne by Government and half by the Carnegie Corporation. There are twenty girls' boarding schools subsidized by Government, with an enrolment of approximately 800 pupils. Domestic and vocational training is an important feature of the curricula of these girls' schools.

Boys receive training as carpenters, masons, and bricklayers at the Barotse National School, at Mbereshi, and to a lesser degree at several other mission stations. The Government trades school for the training of carpenters, masons, and bricklayers at Lusaka has fifty-four apprentices in training.

Government has also established an elementary school for boys at Mazabuka and middle schools at Ndola and Kasama. The Government Normal School at Mazabuka trains teachers for Government requirements and for the smaller missions which have no training schools of their own.

The proportion of recurrent expenditure (including grants from Trust Funds) on Native education to the total expenditure was at the rate of approximately 3·9 per cent.; the amount spent per head of native population on Native education was approximately 4.8d. but it must be borne in mind that much the greater part of Native education is carried out by the various missions, and it is impossible to compute with any accuracy what their educational services represent in terms of monetary expenditure. If it were possible to arrive at such a sum, the figure given above would be very largely increased.

Digitized by Google

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Railways.

The railway from Southern Rhodesia via the Victoria Falls to the Belgian Congo passes through North-Western Rhodesia and branch lines serving the Roan Antelope, Nkana, and Mufulira copper mines radiate from the main line at Ndola. Three through passenger trains, on which dining-cars and sleeping accommodation are available, run weekly in each direction over the main line. In addition, local mixed trains with second-class and native accommodation run daily in each direction between Livingstone and Ndola. No dining-cars are attached to these latter trains, but stops are made at convenient places sufficiently long to allow of passengers taking a meal at the local hotel. In addition to these a regular goods train service is in operation for the conveyance of goods and mineral traffic, and loads of 1,300 tons in the northward direction are regularly obtained over long sections by these latter trains.

River Transport.

Transport to stations in the Barotse valley is by barge along the Zambesi river, but for rapid transport light aeroplanes are now being used to Mongu, where there is a Government aerodrome. There is no sleeping accommodation on the barges, which are made fast to the river bank for the night whilst travellers camp on shore. The journey up the Zambesi from Livingstone to Mongu by barge takes from twelve days to three weeks: by air it is effected in three hours.

Roads.

The roads of the territory are of earth with the exception of the portion of the Great North Road which runs from the Victoria Falls to Livingstone—a distance of some eight miles—and a stretch of two miles in Lusaka, which are bitumen-surfaced.

The arterial road system consists of three main routes, viz., the Great North Road from Livingstone, which runs adjacent to the railway as far as Kapiri Mposhi (460 miles) where it turns north-east to Abercorn and Mpulungu on Lake Tanganyika, a total distance of 982 miles. The principal towns and Government stations on this route are Kalomo, Choma, Mazabuka, Lusaka, Broken Hill, Mpika, Kasama and Abercorn. At Mpulungu the lake steamer connects with Kigoma on the Tanganyika Railway.

The Congo Border Road branches off from the Great North Road at Kapiri Mposhi and traverses the Copper Belt, Bwana Mkubwa, Ndola, Nkana, Nchanga and Solwezi being the principal towns through which it passes. From Solwezi the road

Digitized by Google

turns southward and passing through Kasempa and Mumbwa joins the Great North Road again 45 miles south of Broken Hill. The length of the Congo Border Road is 650 miles.

The Great East Road leaves the Great North Road at Lusaka and proceeds to Fort Jameson and the Nyasaland border, where it connects up with the Nyasaland road system. The distance to Fort Jameson is 392 miles and this town is twelve miles from the Nyasaland border.

In addition to the main routes mentioned above, there are 4,950 miles of secondary roads which connect settled areas and Government stations throughout the greater part of the territory.

The roads generally are passable for traffic during nine months of the year, but during the rainy season, from December to April, the traffic is restricted to 7,000 lb. gross loading on some roads and 5,000 lb. on others.

The arterial roads have, with the exception of the Congo Border Road, been bridged and culverted with permanent structures.

On other roads, waterways, etc., are crossed by bush timber bridges. A number of pontoons are provided at other major river crossings, for the use of which the Government charges a moderate fee.

Travellers can be accommodated at hotels and rest-houses at suitable points on all the arterial road systems.

The reconstruction programme mentioned in the Report for 1935 was continued. A further 250 miles were reconstructed, making 720 miles in all. Grader maintenance of these sections was started during the year, with plant purchased from Colonial Development Loan funds.

The tractors were British made, of a new type with Diesel engines using crude oil.

The earth road reconstruction programme in the copper mining area was continued. By the completion of the bridges already described in the Report for 1935 and of 30 miles of formed, cambered, and graded earth road, travelling conditions between Ndola, Nkana and Luanshya have been considerably improved. Work was in progress on a new road between Nkana and Mufulira at the end of the year.

Postal.

The volume of correspondence and parcels dealt with was smaller than in 1935. The total number of items dealt with during the three years 1934, 1935 and 1936 was as follows:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.
Posted—Inland	1,403,472	1,736,982	1,563,736
External	1,302,802	1,776,580	1,280,766
Received—External	2,667,356	3,427,164	2,777,788
	5,373,630	6,940,726	5,622,290

Digitized by Google

Revenue from the sale of stamps fell from £22,976 in 1935 to £20,269 in 1936. The decrease is accounted for partly by the fall in the number of postal articles dealt with during the year and partly by sales to philatelists during 1935 of the special Silver Jubilee issue of stamps.

Postal-orders and money-orders were issued during 1935 to the value of £91,919 and during 1936 to the value of £91,426.

Postal-orders and money-orders were paid during 1935 to the value of £37,005 and during 1936 to the value of £42,636.

The number of cash-on-delivery parcels dealt with rose to 11,894 representing an increase of 13·9 per cent. as compared with 1935. Trade charges collected during 1936 amounted to £22,088, being an increase of £1,496, or 7·26 per cent. as compared with the previous year.

Telegraphs.

The main telegraph and telephone trunk route runs beside the railway from the Victoria Falls Bridge to the Congo Border, with branches from Ndola to Luanshya (Roan Antelope Mine) and Ndola to Nkana and thence to Mufulira. Fort Jameson is connected with the Nyasaland system and Kasama and Abercorn with the Tanganyika system.

Both the volume of traffic and the net telegraph revenue for the year were slightly lower than in 1935.

	1934.	1935.	1936.
Paid telegrams	51,595	50,964	45,088
Official telegrams	14,958	16,457	16,256
Net revenue	£8,329	£8,229	£7,593

Telephones.

Exchanges.—Government automatic exchanges are in operation at Broken Hill, Livingstone, Luanshya, Lusaka, Mazabuka and Ndola. Private licensed automatic exchanges are established at the Roan Antelope Mine (Luanshya), the Mufulira Mine and Nkana.

Trunk call offices open for public service are established at all post offices on the line of rail and licensed exchanges have facilities for trunk intercommunication.

Telephone Revenue.

	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£
Exchange rentals	3,666	3,841	4,326
Call office and trunk fees	3,249	3,629	3,758
Miscellaneous	118	121	151
Total	£7,033	£7,591	£8,235

Digitized by Google

Wireless.

(*a*) *Aeronautical Services.*—Aeronautical wireless stations have been installed at Mpika and Broken Hill for radio-communication services principally in connexion with the Imperial Airways England—South Africa Air Route. Both are equipped for point-to-point communication by means of short-wave emissions and for communication with aircraft in flight, on a wave-length of 900 metres.

(*b*) *Internal and International Services.*—In addition to aeronautical radio-communication services, Broken Hill and Mpika maintain a public service, as Mpika is otherwise isolated. Short-wave stations have been installed at Abercorn, Livingstone, Mongu, and Fort Jameson.

International communication is maintained by Broken Hill with the territories of Tanganyika, Southern Rhodesia, and the Union of South Africa.

Revenue is included in telegraph revenue.

Civil Aviation.

The following air routes have been established in Northern Rhodesia and pilots of all aircraft, especially single-engined aircraft, are advised in the interests of safety to follow these routes when flying between the places mentioned:—

(1) *Livingstone to Balovale* (or intermediate stations) via Sesheke, Njoko, Sioma, Senanga, and Mongu.

(2) *Livingstone to Ndola* (or intermediate stations) via Kalomo, Choma, Mazabuka, Lusaka, Chisamba, Broken Hill and Kapiri Mposhi.

(3) *Lusaka to Fort Jameson* via Nyangwena, Rufunsa, Beit Bridge, Nyimba and Sasare.

(4) *Broken Hill to Mbeya* (or intermediate stations) via Mtuga, Ndabala, Kanona (for Serenje) Kalonje, Mpika, Shiwa Ngandu, Chinsali, Isoka and Mwenimpanza.

(5) *Broken Hill to Abercorn* via Mtuga, Ndabala, Kanona, Kalonje, Mpika, Kasama and Rosa.

(6) *Ndola to Mbeya* (or intermediate stations) via Kapiri Mposhi, Mtuga, Ndabala, Kanona, Kalonje, Mpika, Shiwa Ngandu, Chinsali, Isoka and Mwenimpanza.

(7) *Ndola to Abercorn* via Kapiri Mposhi, Mtuga, Ndabala, Kanona, Kalonje, Mipika, Kasama and Rosa.

(8) *Abercorn to any line of rail station,* via Rosa, Kasama, Mpika, Kalonje, Kanona, Ndabala, Mtuga, Broken Hill and then to the required destination via the railway line.

(9) *Lusaka—Matala—Mumbwa,* Broken Hill—Matala—Mumbwa. Mazabuka—Matala—Mumbwa.

Digitized by Google

Aerodromes and landing grounds are maintained in good condition in the more settled areas, but it is not always possible to maintain distant emergency landing grounds to the same extent, although every endeavour is made to do so.

Airways.

The service of Imperial Airways operated with regularity throughout the year.

The French air service between Madagascar, Broken Hill and Elizabethville, Belgian Congo, also operated with regularity. At Elizabethville this service links up with the Belgian service to Europe. The machines of this service arrive at Broken Hill from Madagascar every Thursday morning and proceed to Elizabethville the same day. They return to Broken Hill the following day and then proceed on the return journey to Madagascar.

The Rhodesian and Nyasaland Airways Limited have a machine permanently stationed at Lusaka under charter to the Northern Rhodesia Government.

The Flying Club (founded in May, 1935) has its headquarters at Lusaka, and branches are maintained at Livingstone, Broken Hill, Matala Mine and Nkana. The club possesses two aircraft, a Hornet Moth and a Gypsy Moth.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The Standard Bank of South Africa Limited and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) operate in the territory, with branches or agencies at the more important centres. The total deposits at those banks at 31st December, 1936, amounted to £902,212, as compared with £890,073 at the end of the previous year.

The Post Office Savings Bank deposits amounted to £33,575 at 31st December, 1936, as compared with £30,131 at the end of the previous year.

There is no Land or Agricultural Bank in the territory.

The Bank Notes and Coinage Ordinance, 1931, Bank Notes and Coinage (Amendment) Ordinance, 1934, and Proclamation No. 1 of 1935 prescribe as legal tender throughout the territory (*a*) Bank of England notes, (*b*) bank-notes issued by the Standard Bank of South Africa Limited and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) at their offices at Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, (*c*) the standard coinage in use in England, (*d*) silver coinage of Southern Rhodesia for any amount not exceeding £2 sterling value and (*e*) cupro-nickel coinage of Southern Rhodesia for any amount not exceeding one shilling

Digitized by Google

in value. The enactment of the first Ordinance on the 12th October, 1931, marked the departure of Northern Rhodesia from the gold standard of currency.

The English standards of weights and measures are in force.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The following buildings were completed during the year.

1. The north wing of the Terminal Building at Lusaka air port. The design was prepared by Mr. Graham Dawbarn, M.A., F.R.I.B.A. of Messrs. Norman Muntz & Dawbarn of London, and the cost was met by a grant from the Beit Railway Trust.

2. The Provincial Commissioner's House at Fort Jameson was completed as a single story structure on the foundations of the old two story building.

3. A small cottage was erected by contract to accommodate a police constable at Luanshya.

4. A wood and iron customs shed and office were erected near the Railway Station at Lusaka.

5. Further additions were carried out to Government House, and the Executive Counsellors' houses at Lusaka. These were mostly in the nature of improvements to the main structures, and additional mosquito proofing found by experience to be necessary.

Other Public Works.

1. *Copper Belt Bridges.*—Two bridges of 25 ft. span, and one 6 ft. diameter culvert were constructed on the new cross road connecting Nkana with the Ndola-Mufulira Road.

The abutments are constructed in reinforced concrete and a slab deck of the same material is carried by rolled steel joists.

2. *Nyimba Bridge.*—A new bridge with three 30 ft. openings was constructed over the Nyimba River, on the Lusaka-Fort Jameson Road in the vicinity of that washed away in 1934. The piers are built-up steel trestles cased in concrete, and the abutments of reinforced concrete, all on rock foundations. The decking consists of steel troughing salved from the old bridge filled with concrete, and so shaped as to offer as little resistance as possible to exceptional floods which may be expected to top the structure.

3. *Maramba Bridge.*—This bridge was rebuilt so as to raise it above flood level, and to enable it to carry the heavier traffic now using this road.

The former structure consisted of ten 15 ft. spans of rails, carried on trestles built up of the same material. The new bridge consists of two 30 ft. spans carried on rolled steel joists,

Digitized by Google

and six 15 ft. spans with rail bearers, all on concrete piers encasing the old steel trestles.

4. *Lusaka Aerodrome drainage.*—10,000 ft. of tile drain were laid in the more low lying portions of the flying area, with the intention of raising it as closely to an all weather standard as may be possible without the construction of paved run ways.

5. *Ndola Hospital drains.*—The existing septic tank and sullage systems were connected by a drain about 7,000 ft. long to a small settling tank, and contact bed designed to treat the mixture of sullage and tank effluent to a sufficient extent to permit of discharge into an adjacent swamp.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

Justice is administered by the High Court of Northern Rhodesia and by the Magistrates' Courts, subject to appeal to and review by the High Court.

During the year the High Court dealt with 139 civil matters as against 146 in the preceding year, and heard 18 actions and three appeals. Six petitions in bankruptcy were presented. Sessions were held during the year at points along the line of railway in March and October-November. Sixty-two criminal cases came before the Court, exclusive of reviews of judgments in the lower Courts; these latter numbered 473 of which 411 convictions involving one or more persons were approved, 41 quashed, 20 altered, and the remaining one case was referred to the High Court on a point of law.

Native Courts.

A new Native Courts Ordinance has been passed, which will apply to the whole of the territory, except Barotseland, when it comes into force. For the latter Province, a Barotse Native Courts Ordinance is now in force.

The new Native Courts Ordinance is more detailed than the former one, and deals with many matters which were previously provided for by rules. Like the Native Authority Ordinance, it emphasises that everything shall be done in accordance with native law and custom. The Courts must be constituted in accordance with native law and custom, and are then recognized by the Governor, who lays down their powers and jurisdiction by Warrant. Provision is also made for the institution of Native Court prisons and for Native Courts of Appeal, as well as appeals to the Courts of District Officers and the High Court.

The Barotse Native Courts Ordinance is similar, and was enacted in accordance with an agreement entered into between

Digitized by Google

the Crown and the Paramount Chief. The construction and jurisdiction of the Courts is as laid down in the agreement. In criminal cases there is an appeal to the Provincial Commissioner from the Native Court of Appeal, but in civil cases the appeal lies to the High Court only.

The general conduct of Native Courts continues to be satisfactory.

Excluding the Barotse Province, 6,522 criminal cases were heard during the year by Native Courts, and 7,081 civil cases.

Police.

Police prosecuted a total number of 11,123 cases during the year 1936. This shows an increase of 1,773 cases on the figures for 1935. There was an increase of 43 convictions against Europeans under the Penal Code and an increase of 156 convictions under the local laws. Convictions against natives under the Penal Code showed a decrease of 161 and under the local laws an increase of 19. The following is a list of persons convicted of the more serious offences during 1936.

Crime.	*Europeans.*	*Natives.*	*Totals.* 1936.	1935.
Affray	1	54	55	51
Arson	—	15	15	9
Assault, common	23	128	151	166
Assault, O.A.B.H.	14	161	175	144
Assault on police	1	16	17	12
Burglary	—	134	134	96
Extortion	—	2	2	—
Forgery	12	20	32	28
Fraud	22	1	23	7
Housebreaking	2	152	154	156
Indecent assault	—	8	8	11
Indecent curiosity	—	4	4	3
Manslaughter	1	12	13	19
Murder	—	18	18	26
Attempted murder	—	8	8	7
Obtaining goods by false pretences	1	7	8	12
Perjury	—	2	2	4
Rape and attempted rape	—	18	18	12
Receiving	—	41	41	49
Robbery	—	5	5	8
Theft, all forms	25	986	1,011	942
Unlawful wounding	—	20	20	8
Uttering	12	14	26	25

The foregoing figures include only those cases taken to court by the police and do not include cases heard by a Magistrate at stations where the police are not posted.

Prisons.

There are six central prisons in the territory, situated at Livingstone, Broken Hill, Kasama, Mongu, Fort Jameson and

Digitized by Google

Lusaka. In addition to the central prisons there are also 28 local prisons situated at each of the other Government stations.

Committals to all prisons during the year were as follows:—

Livingstone	239
Broken Hill	560
Fort Jameson	180
Kasama	70
Mongu	363
Lusaka	219
All local prisons	6,202
Total	7,833

The daily average of prisoners for all prisons was 974.

The daily average of sick was 39.

There were six executions during the year as against seven in 1935.

There were 18 deaths from natural causes.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

During the year under review, Sessions of the Legislative Council were held in May and October-November. Thirty Ordinances were enacted, of which nineteen were amendments to the existing law.

The more important Ordinances are:—

The Post Office Savings Bank (No. 6 of 1936).
The Native Authority (No. 9 of 1936).
The Native Courts (No. 10 of 1936).
The Townships (Amendment) (No. 12 of 1936).
The Tobacco Marketing and Levy (No. 13 of 1936).
The Barotse Native Authority (No. 25 of 1936).
The Barotse Native Courts (No. 26 of 1936).

The Post Office Savings Bank Ordinance is the result of investigations by a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to examine the Government Savings Banks systems in the Colonies. The report of the Committee *inter alia* stressed the following points which were not dealt with in the existing legislation of this territory:

(*a*) That savings bank accounts should be kept distinct from the accounts of any Government department.

(*b*) That all expenses incurred on savings bank business should be charged against savings bank funds.

(*c*) That savings bank accounts should be laid annually before the Legislature.

(*d*) That the proportion of surplus funds invested in local securities should not exceed one-third.

Digitized by Google

(*e*) That the relations between savings bank funds and the public revenues should be such as to preserve a reasonable balance between the immediate interests of the taxpayer and his ultimate liability for the security of the bank's financial position.

The Ordinance was passed to give effect to these recommendations.

The Native Authority Ordinance re-enacted the existing law with certain amendments, the principal of which are:—

(1) " Appointment " of Native Authorities is altered to " recognition ", following the principle of constitution in accordance with native law and custom.

(2) The sections of the existing law dealing with the appointment, tenure of office and dismissal of chiefs were deleted: no such appointments had been made since the existing law was enacted and it was considered that such matters are better regulated by native law and custom. Power is retained for the Governor-in-Council to direct an enquiry as to chieftainship in any case of doubt.

(3) The power of a Native Authority to issue orders to be obeyed by natives within the local limits of its jurisdiction is made subject to the general or special directions of the Governor.

(4) Power is given to establish Native Treasuries for the area under the control of any Native Authority. As yet Native Authorities have not handled public moneys: the time is considered ripe for these bodies to have powers of levying certain rates, dues and fees and to gain experience in managing their own financial affairs. Control is vested in the Governor.

(5) Power is given to the Governor to except any native or class of natives from the jurisdiction of any Native Authority.

The Native Courts Ordinance replaces the short enabling Ordinance of seven sections which was enacted in 1929 to initiate the system of native courts in the territory. Experience of its working revealed certain defects especially as regards the provisions for appeals and it was considered desirable to enact a more comprehensive law. Provision is now made for the recognition of native courts by warrant under the hand of the Governor, or under the hand of a Provincial Commissioner if he is so authorized by the Governor. Courts are to be " recognized ", and not " appointed " as in the existing law, following the principle of constitution in accordance with native law and custom. The jurisdiction of each court will be defined in its warrant, and not in rules of court as formerly. Practice procedure is to be regulated in accordance with native law and custom, and appeals will lie first to the Native Court of Appeal, thence to a Magistrate's Court and finally to the High Court.

Digitized by Google

The Townships (Amendment) Ordinance adds to the principal Ordinance a Part, on the lines of Parts V and VI of the Municipal Corporations Ordinance, providing for the election of members of Township Management Boards which can be applied to any township, the advanced growth of which renders desirable an elected Management Board.

The Tobacco Marketing and Levy Ordinance implements an agreement between the tobacco producers of Southern Rhodesia, Nyasaland and this territory to restrict the export of tobacco to the United Kingdom to the visible or reasonably anticipated demand. Provision is also made for the allocation between growers of the Union of South Africa quota, and, if so desired by the majority of growers, for the imposition of a levy not exceeding sixpence per hundred pounds to be utilized for the benefit of the tobacco growing industry.

The Barotse Native Authority Ordinance provides for the recognition of the Native Authorities in the Barotse Province, which was excluded from the provisions of Ordinance No. 9 of 1936, and is identical with that measure, save that, in accordance with the terms of certain treaties and agreements, the powers reserved to the Paramount Chief are more extensive than those which have been conferred on chiefs in other parts of the territory.

The Barotse Native Courts Ordinance provides for the recognition and regulates the procedure of native courts in the Barotse Province and is identical with the Native Courts Ordinance, 1936, which excluded the Barotse Province from its operation, save that more extensive powers are reserved to the Paramount Chief.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure for the past nine years have been:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*		*Total Expenditure.*
		Recurrent.	*Extraordinary.*	
	£	£	£	£
1928-29 ...	541,606	496,399	28,769	525,168
1929-30 ...	672,289	532,367	22,160	554,527
1930-31 ...	830,254	668,083	36,903	704,986
1931-32 ...	856,376	793,798	26,258	820,056
1932 ...	649,538	777,290	13,216	790,506
1933 ...	718,283	773,985	4,894	778,879
1934 ...	693,337	710,774	2,129	712,903
1935 ...	833,484	780,930	25,499	806,429
1936 ...	863,255	836,174	51,243	887,417

These figures exclude repayments to the Imperial Exchequer of grants-in-aid received in 1924-5 and 1925-6, and the loan of £240,000 received from the Colonial Development Fund and lent to the Rhokana Corporation in 1934.

Digitized by Google

Loan expenditure on capital development amounted to:—

£566,801 at 31st March, 1931.
£1,216,681 at 31st March, 1932.
£1,475,130 at 31st December, 1932.
£1,821,123 at 31st December, 1933.
£1,991,387 at 31st December, 1934.
£2,159,826 at 31st December, 1935.
£2,190,402 at 31st December, 1936.

The public debt consists of £1,250,000 5 per cent. inscribed stock 1950-70 issued in 1932 and £1,097,000 3½ per cent. inscribed stock 1955-65 issued in 1933.

The assets of the territory at the 31st December, 1936, consisted of:—

	£
Cash	171,859
Investments	79,427
Advances pending the receipt of grants from Beit Railway Trust	1,846
Sundry debtors	44,240
Stores	32,626
	£329,998

The liabilities were:—

	£
Post Office Savings Bank	33,907
Native Reserves Fund	14,013
Sundry creditors	73,643
Northern Rhodesia 3½ per cent. Loan, 1955-65, unexpended balance	55,572
Seigniorage Reserve	5,000
Reserve Fund	30,000
Excess of assets over liabilities	117,863
	£329,998

The main headings of taxation and yields during 1936 were as follows:—

	£
Licences	33,950
Native Tax	116,160
Customs and Excise Duties	266,793
Income Tax	211,721

Licence fees are principally derived from trading, vehicles, arms, shooting of game, sale of liquor, and prospecting for minerals.

The annual native tax rates and the yields in 1936 are as follows:—

	£
Barotse Province (7s. 6d.)	22,365
Other Provinces (from 7s. 6d. to 15s. according to district)	93,795
	£116,160

Digitized by Google

All male natives are liable to pay one tax annually if they have reached eighteen years of age and are not indigent by reason of age, disease or such other cause as the District Officer may accept. Women and children are not liable and there is no tax on additional huts or on plural wives. It is not the practice to enforce payment on local natives who have been absent from the territory for periods exceeding twelve months if they are able to produce a tax receipt from an adjoining territory for that period and if they have not cultivated lands locally. The persons liable for tax are recorded in registers compiled under the supervision of District Officers. Collection is direct by officials of the Government and not by Native Authorities. Recovery for default is by distress through the Courts. The tax may be accepted in grain or stock or other produce at the discretion of the District Officer, but the practice is rare. Thirty per cent. of the Barotse tax is paid to a Trust Fund and applied directly to expenditure on native interests in the Barotse area.

For Customs purposes Northern Rhodesia is divided into two zones known as the Congo and Zambezi Basins. The Congo Basin can roughly be taken to be all the territory north of a line drawn on a map of Northern Rhodesia in a south-westerly direction from Fife in the north-east to the border where the territory joins the south-east corner of the Belgian Congo. The remainder of the territory to the west and the south constitutes the Zambezi Basin. The Zambezi Basin is by far the more important part of the territory industrially, and more than 90 per cent. of the total trade is transacted in this area.

The Zambezi Basin is subject to Customs Agreements with Southern Rhodesia, the Union of South Africa, and with the Bechuanaland Protectorate, Basutoland, and Swaziland. The agreements provide in general for considerable rebates upon interchange of local manufactures, and for free interchange of raw products with limitation in regard to leaf tobacco.

The Congo Basin part of the territory is within the area defined by the Berlin Conference of 1885, and under the terms of the Convention revising the General Act and Declaration of Brussels of the 2nd July, 1890, signed at St. Germain-en-Laye on the 10th September, 1919, commercial equality within this area must be granted to nationals of the Signatory Powers and those of States Members of the League of Nations which adhere to the Convention. This part of the territory is therefore excluded from the terms of the Customs Agreements mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

Empire preference is given in the case of the following classes of goods, which are mainly liable to *ad valorem* rates of duty:— clothing, blankets and rugs, cotton piece-goods, motor cars and all articles usually imported for household and native use, the duty on Empire products being in almost every instance

Digitized by Google

10 per cent. or 12 per cent., and the duty on foreign products varying from 15 to 30 per cent.: in the case of cotton and silk piece-goods, shirts, singlets, and rubber shoes, from foreign countries, the tariff provides for alternative specific rates of duty if such should be greater. Agricultural, electrical, mining, and other industrial machinery, pipes and piping, metals and metal manufactures imported for industrial purposes, if of Empire manufacture, are free of duty, and if of foreign origin are subject to an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent., except foreign electrical machinery on which the duty is 15 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Specific rates of duty apply to practically all imported foodstuffs, motor spirit, lubricating oils, paraffin and cement, and to spirits, wines, beer, and tobacco; upon the latter items, apart from rum, no preference is granted except under the terms of the Customs Agreements with the neighbouring territories in the south, but varying rates of preference are granted to foodstuffs of Empire origin.

The Customs Tariff contains two scales of duty:—

Scale " A "—in respect of goods not entitled to preferential treatment;

Scale " B "—in respect of goods from the United Kingdom and British Possessions, and all goods imported into the Congo Basin area.

Ports of Entry.

The following are the ports of entry into and exit from Northern Rhodesia:—Ndola, Livingstone, Fort Jameson, Broken Hill, Lusaka (free warehousing ports), Abercorn, Solwezi, Fort Rosebery, Chingola, Kawambwa, Mpika, Balovale, Mwinilunga, Isoka, Chiengi, Feira, Kazangula, Lundazi, and Mufulira.

Customs Agreements.

The terms of the Agreement with the Union of South Africa provide for the transfer of Union rates of duty or Northern Rhodesia rates of duty, if such are higher, when overseas goods are removed from the Union to Northern Rhodesia, and for the transfer of Union rates of duty when overseas goods are removed from Northern Rhodesia to the Union. In respect of local manufactures (with certain exceptions), removed between the two territories Government payments of 15 per cent. of the export value of foodstuffs and 10 per cent. of the export value of other manufactures are made. During 1936 the Agreement was amended and a Government payment is not now made on electrolytic copper and zinc produced in Northern Rhodesia and removed to the Union. The other exceptions are manufactured tobacco, beer, wines and spirits, which are

Digitized by Google

directly taxed at tariff rates subject to the following rebates:—manufactured tobacco, 75 per cent.; beer and wines, 50 per cent.; spirits, 25 per cent. Free interchange of unmanufactured goods is provided for, but Northern Rhodesia leaf tobacco exported to the Union is limited to 400,000 lb. per annum free of duty and, similarly, Union leaf tobacco imported into Northern Rhodesia is limited to 50,000 lb. free of duty.

The terms of the Agreement with Southern Rhodesia provide for a uniform tariff so far as possible and the transfer of the higher duty imposed in either territory when imported goods are removed from one territory to the other. In respect of local manufactures removed between the two territories, Government payments of 12 per cent. of the export value of foodstuffs and 9 per cent. of the export value of all other local manufactures are transferred, except in the case of beer, wines and spirits, which are directly taxed at tariff rates subject to the following rebates:—beer and wines, 50 per cent.; spirits, 25 per cent. Cigarettes and tobacco of Southern Rhodesia or Northern Rhodesia manufacture are not liable to import rates upon removal from one territory to the other but are subject to a transferred payment of the appropriate excise duties. Free interchange of unmanufactured goods is provided for.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX.

PUBLICATIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST RELATING TO NORTHERN RHODESIA.

Expedition to the Zambesi and Its Discovery of Lakes Shirwa and Nyasa. By D. and C. Livingstone. (John Murray, London. 1865. 21s.)

The Lands of the Cazembe. Translation of Dr. Lacerda's diaries and information about Portuguese expeditions. By Sir Richard Burton. Published by the Royal Geographical Society. (John Murray, London. 1873.)

Livingstone and the Exploration of Central Africa. By Sir H. H. Johnston. (Phillip & Son, London. 1894. 4s. 6d.)

On the Threshold of Central Africa. By F. Coillard. (Hodder & Stoughton, London. 1897. 15s.) Contains an account of the social and political status of the Natives.

Exploration and Hunting in Central Africa. By A. St. H. Gibbons. (Methuen & Co., London. 1898. 15s.) Contains a full, careful description of the Upper Zambesi, and an account of the subjects of Chief Lewanika.

Au Pays des Ba-Rotsi, Haut-Zambesi. By A. Bertrand. Hachette, Paris. 1898. English Edition, Unwin. 16s.)

In Remotest Barotseland. By Colonel C. Harding. (Hurst & Blackett, London. 1905. 10s. 6d.)

The Great Plateau of Northern Rhodesia. By G. Gouldsbury and H. Sheane. (Arnold, London. 1911. 16s.)

The Ila Speaking Peoples of Northern Rhodesia. By Rev. E. W. Smith and Captain A. M. Dale. (MacMillan & Co., London. 1920. 2 vols. 50s.)

In Witch-bound Africa. By F. H. Melland. (Seeley, Service, London. 1923. 21s.)

The Making of Rhodesia. By H. Marshall Hole. (MacMillan & Co., London. 1926. 18s.)

The Way of the White Fields in Rhodesia. By Rev. E. W. Smith. (World Dominion Press, London. 1928. 5s.)

The British in Tropical Africa. By I. L. Evans. (Cambridge University Press. 1929. 12s. 6d.)

The Lambas of Northern Rhodesia. By C. M. Doke. (Harrap, London. 1931. 36s.)

A Faunal Survey of Northern Rhodesia, with Especial Reference to Game, Elephant Control and National Parks, with Maps. By C. R. S. Pitman. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 1934. 7s. 6d.)

Native Tribes of North-Eastern Rhodesia. By J. C. C. Coxhead. Published by the Royal Anthropological Institute.

Tribal Areas in Northern Rhodesia. By Thomson J. Moffat and W. G. Fairweather. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 3s.)

Native Tribes of the East Luangwa Province of Northern Rhodesia. By E. M. Lane Poole. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 1934 3s.)

British South Africa Company's Reports on the Administration of Rhodesia.

European Education Committee. Report, 1929. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 2s.)

Digitized by Google

Present Position of the Agricultural Industry, and the necessity or otherwise of Encouraging Further European Settlement in Agricultural Areas. Report by S. Milligan, 1931. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 2s.)

Census of 1931. Report of Director. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 2s. 6d.)

Defence Commission. Report, 1932. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 2s. 6d.)

Finance Commission. Report, 1932. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 2s. 6d.)

Agricultural Survey Commission. Report, 1930-1932. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 7s. 6d.)

Copperbelt Disturbances. Report of Commission of Enquiry, 1935. Cmd. 5009. (H.M. Stationery Office, London. 1s. 6d.) Evidence taken by the Commission. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 15s.)

Economics of the Cattle Industry in Northern Rhodesia. Memorandum, 1935. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 1s.)

General Geology of Northern Rhodesia. Notes by J. A. Bancroft and R. A. Pelletier. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 1s. 6d.)

Blue Book (Annually). (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 10s. 6d.)

Annual Reports of the Several Government Departments. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. Various prices.)

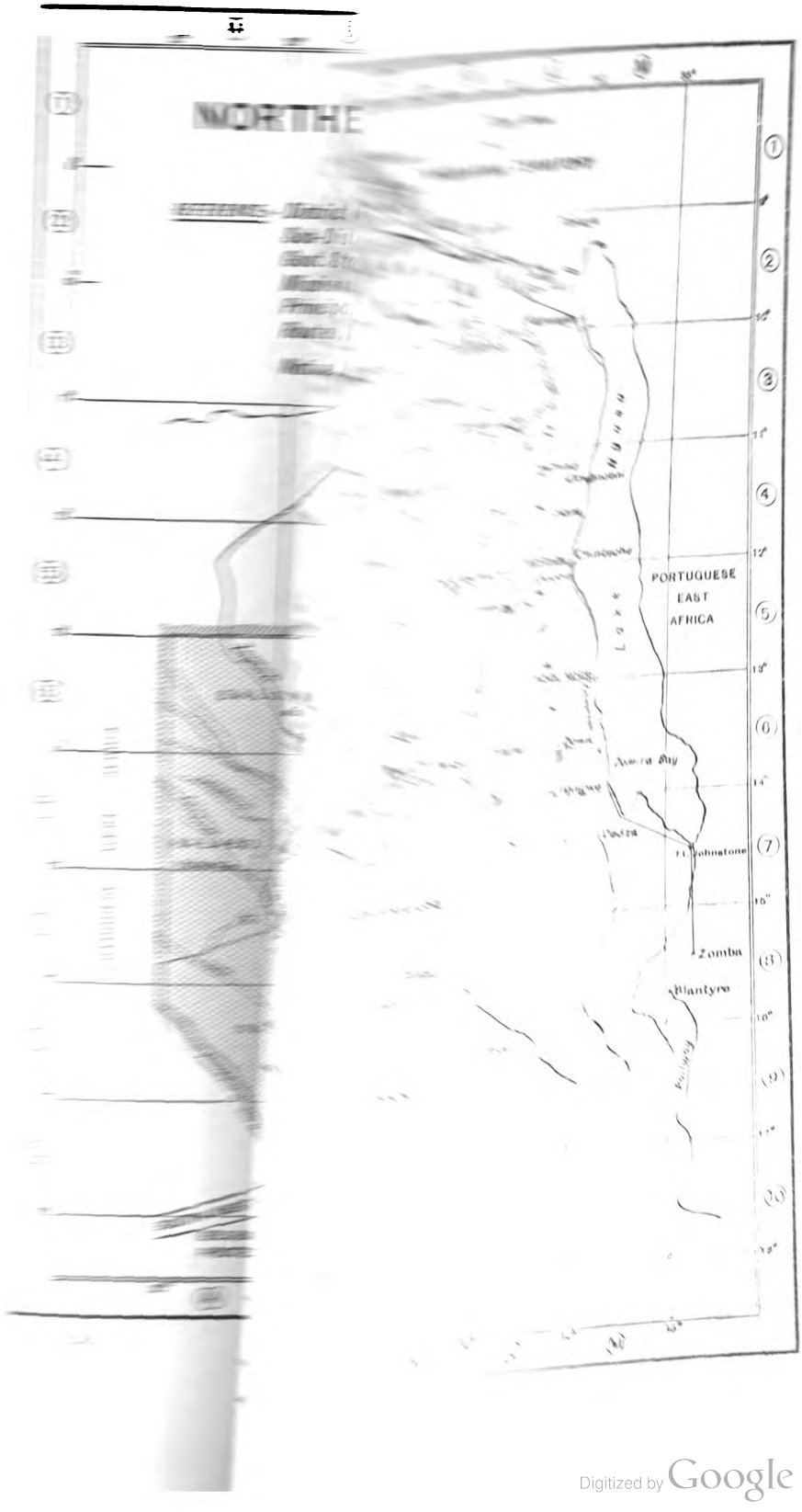
The Soils, Vegetation and Agricultural Systems of North-Western Rhodesia: Report of the Ecological Survey by C. G. Trapnell and J. M. Clothier. (Government Printer, Northern Rhodesia. 15s.)

Note.—The Crown Agents for the Colonies, London, are agents for the sale of publications issued by the Northern Rhodesia Government.

(45008—48) Wt. 2308—3895 750 10/37 P. St. G. 377/7

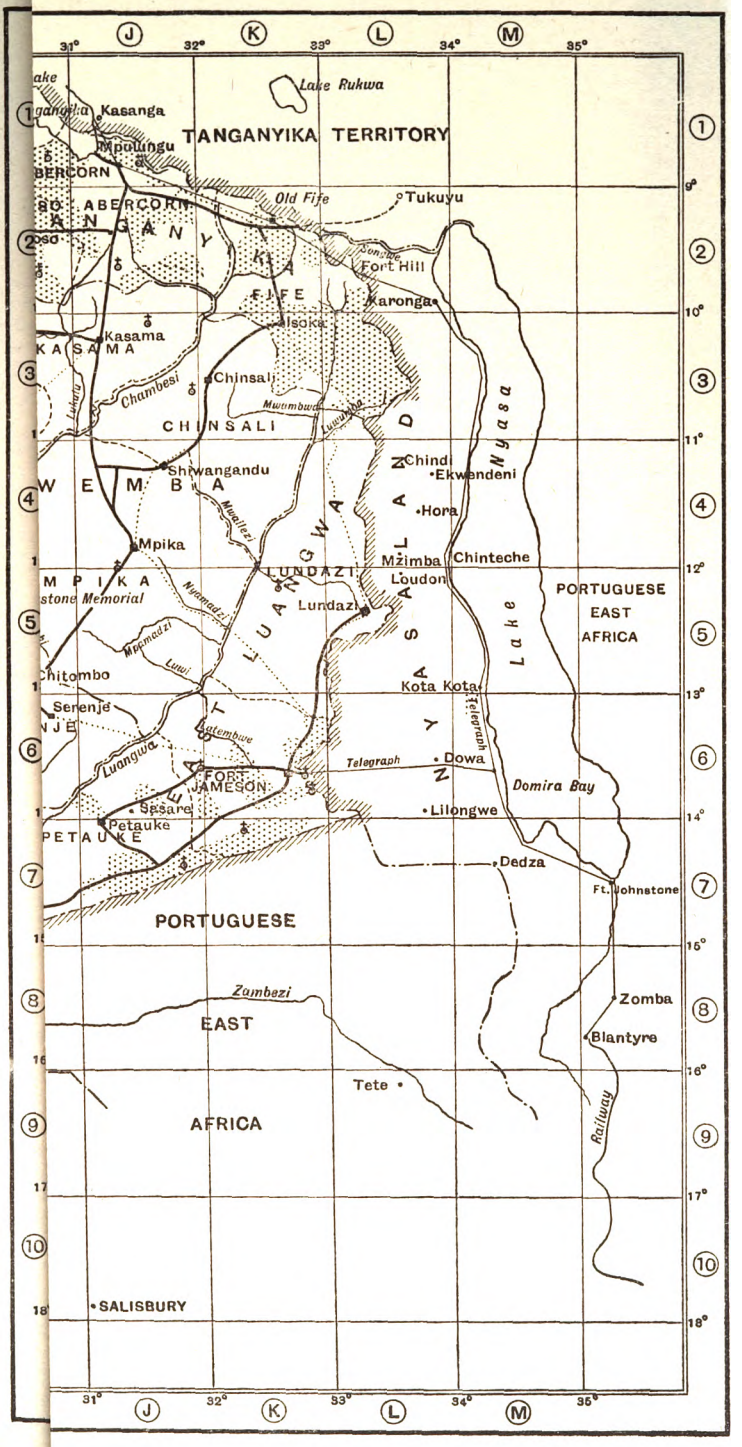
Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. od. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. od. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935.

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 os. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. od. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through

Digitized by Google

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SEIRRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1811

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google